



CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

the-
 created with co-
 ally burning on her a-
 of spotless chastity, esp. on-
 her life to religion, nun. [F.
 vestalis a. & n. (as prec., see -AL)]
 ves'tiārĭ, n. (rare or obs.), & a. A vestry,
 robing-room, or cloakroom; (adj.) relating
 to clothes or dress. [ME, f. OF vestiārie,
 see VESTRY]
 ves'tibūle, n. Ante-chamber, hall, lobby,
 next to outer door of house & from which
 doors open into various rooms; porch
 of church.
 ves'try, n. Choristers, etc.,
 subtle; an altar-cloth.
 vest'ric, n. Service, speedy,
 efficient, reliable. Hence-ise,
 to give only the best service;
 -drop, make fast delivery of;
 -car, small red van; -cord,
 telephone answering service;
 -stock, wide range of.
 -try (ves'tri) [O.F. vestiar-
 estiarium, ward-]

concerte-
 distressing the-
 Hence vēxā'tio
 LY² adv., vēxā-
 or f. L. veratio-
 vēxill'um, n.
 tary stande-
 troops und-
 large up-
 flower; a.
 LATE² a.
 bishop's
 cross.
 [L. (vel)
 of a, n.
 Way
 (esp.
 Ro-
 2.
 fr-
 (

old in
 military) serv-
 lington's ~s, a ~ composed of
 (adj.) of a ~, ~s, ~s, ~s
 troops. Hence ~s, ~s, ~s
 veteranus a. & n. (velus-
 veterinārĭ, a. & n. 1. Of, for, (the treat-
 mont of) diseases & injuries of domestic
 animals, as ~ surgeon, science, college.
 2. n. (abbr. vet). A ~ surgeon; also
 veterinārĭan n. [f. L. veterinarius f.
 ~, n. (pl. ~es), & v.t. 1. Constitutional
 of sovereign, president, governor,
 house of legislature, etc., to reject
 lative enactment (suspensory ~,
 ting but not necessarily preventing
 ion of measure), whence ~s, ~s
 cial prohibition, as ~s, ~s
 or his ~ on the proposal. 2. v.t.
 ~ against (bill etc.), forbid
 atively. [L. = I forbid, the people in
 use by tribune of the people in
 ing measures]
 ~. Anger by slight or petty annoy-
 irritate, as this would ~ a saint, how
 1, whence ~s, ~s, ~s
 h.) grieve, afflict; (poet., rhet.) put
 ~a etc.) into state of commotion; a ~ed
 much discussed) question. [ME, f. OF
 vexer f. L. verare]
 vēxā'tion, n. Vexing, being vexed; harass-
 ing by means of malicious or trivial lit-



Vestric Ltd

HEAD OFFICE: RUNCORN, CHESHIRE

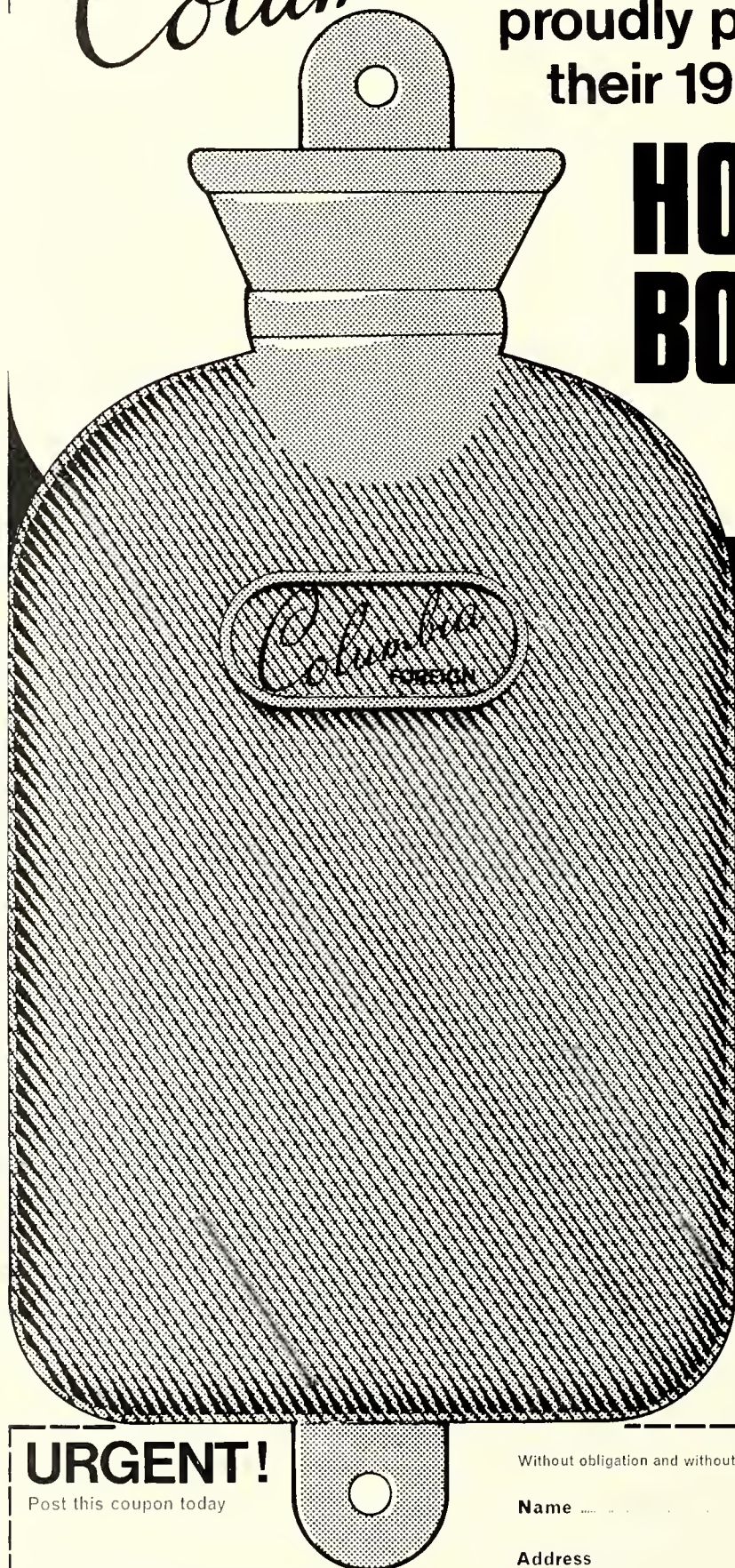
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Where else can you get a double ribbed Hot Water Bottle to retail for only 5/11d?
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- Choice of three models.
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Post this coupon today

Columbia Products Company Ltd.,
Sherbourne Avenue, Ryde, Isle of Wight

Without obligation and without delay I would like your representative to call.

Name

Address

C&D/22/3

Our 15 second offer.



Here it is in a nut-shell: We're offering your customers £3.0.0 off a Polaroid Swinger when they buy any Ronson shaver you carry.

That's almost a third off the recommended price of the camera.

And it's some camera! You take the picture and see it 15 seconds later (it's the fastest offer we've ever offered).

There's nothing for you to stock, nothing for you to pay for. We'll supply you with display cards and order forms, and that's all you need.

So try to be around when your Ronson sales rep calls. Our 15-second offer can't last for ever.

RONSON
← ELECTRICS

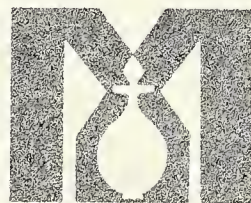
Certor Plastic Medicals . . .



THE WEIGHT OF THINGS

Yes, it really is a 7-year-old tot carrying one hundred 150 ml medicals in one hand! They're the new CERTOR plastic medicals in their shrink-wrap tray. Light, unbreakable, non-toxic, metric — the 'weight of things to come' is light indeed!

The trusted name CERTOR is stamped on the bottom of every one of these new, well designed medicals - an assurance that they are reliable, non-toxic, suitable for your dispensary. Their use will relieve you from handling tons of glass — reduce time spent in manual labour, reduce fatigue for yourself and your staff, eliminate the cost of breakages. CERTOR plastic medicals are available in 50, 100, 150, 200, and 300 ml sizes, and come in shrink-wrap trays for convenience and hygiene. Two standard closures only are needed for the whole range. Production is not unlimited — place your trial orders without delay. Write or telephone today!



MACDONALD

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CASE QUANTITIES Certor Plastic Medicals are, of course, packed in metric quantities as follows: 50 ml in 150s; 100 and 150 ml in 100s; 200 and 300 ml in 50s. The standard closures are No 6 and No 7.

Certor Plastic Medicals are made in Britain.

OF MANCHESTER

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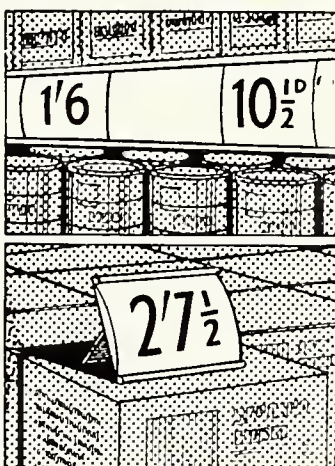
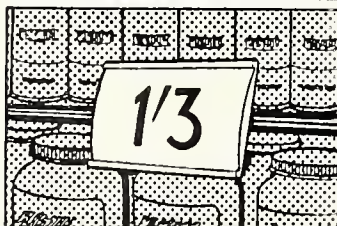
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in all qualities

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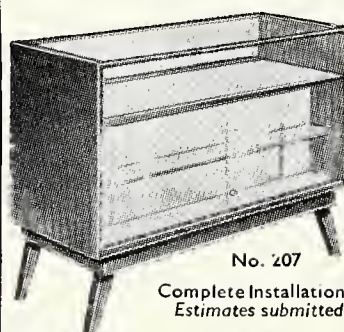


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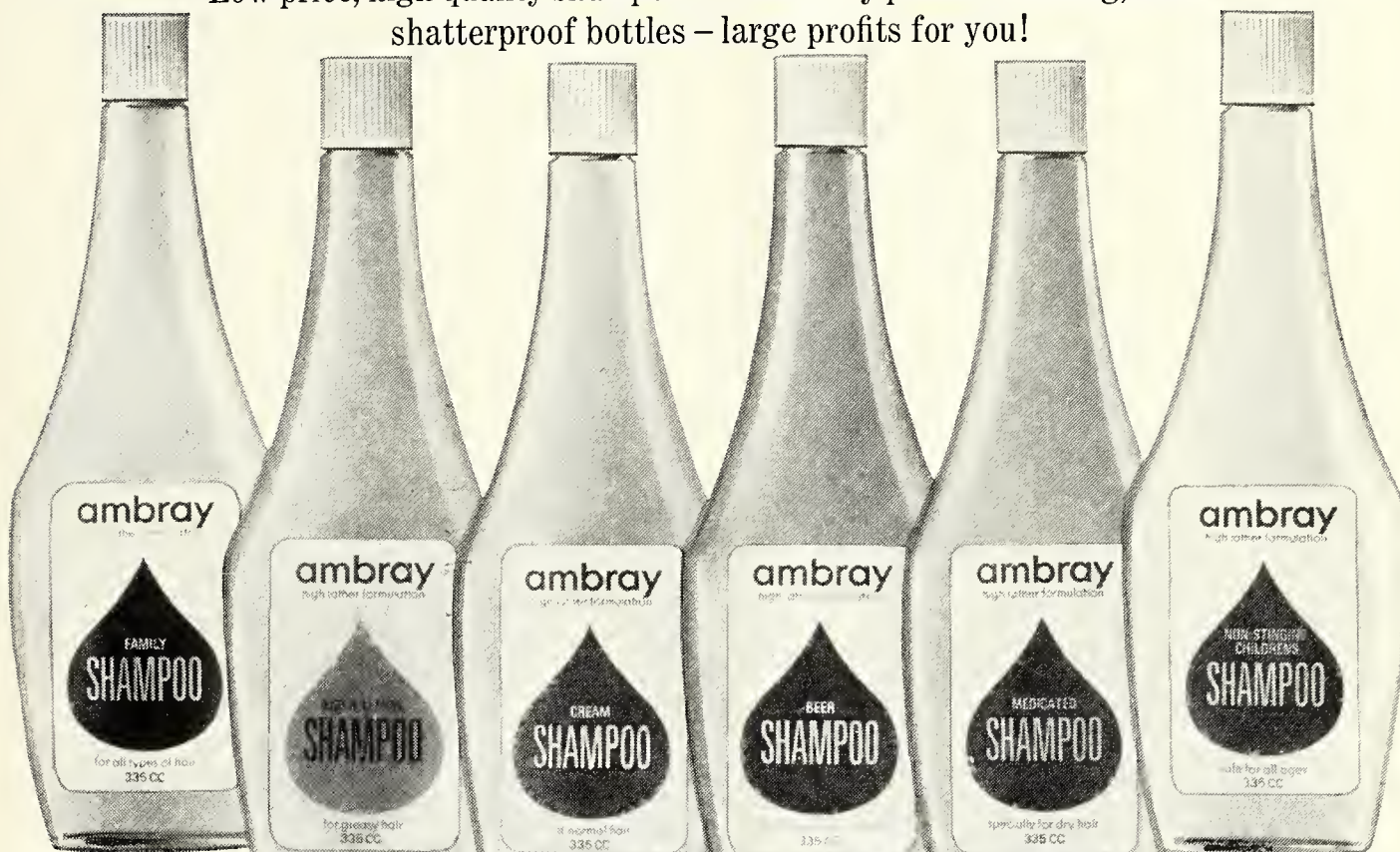
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FAMILY
For all types of hair

EGG & LEMON
for greasy hair

CREAM
for normal hair

BEER
for difficult hair

MEDICATED
for dry hair

CHILDREN'S SHAMPOO too!

Goodbye to bath-night tears! Ambray's Children's Shampoo has a special non-stinging formulation. AND there's a neck-hanger label to draw extra attention.

Prices— Adult shampoo range: 21/6d per doz. plus P.T. Recommended retail price 3/4d.
Children's shampoo: 29/1 per doz. plus P.T. Recommended retail price 4/6d.



AND AMBRAY BREAKS INTO THE HAIRSPRAY MARKET!

Fragrant, non-sticky, crystal clear hairsprays in beautifully designed cans. Attractive low prices with the right profits for you! Available in free colourful dispensers.

3 oz: 23/- per doz. plus P.T. Recommended retail price 3/11d.
12 oz: 42/8d per doz. plus P.T. Recommended retail price 7/3d.



NAME

RETAIL ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

MY USUAL WHOLESALER'S NAME C.D.10

Send this coupon to: E. R. Holloway Ltd., Oldings Corner, Hatfield, Herts.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE FILL IN THE COUPON

The winner

Two sure bets for the slimming market This is the new Bisks range that has been such a winning success in the slimfood

market. And in addition to all the Bisks slimfoods that went down so well in 1968 these are some of the new slimmer's treats in store (make sure they're in your store) for 1969: Swedish Crispbread Sandwich, a Plain Chocolate Biscuit, a Coffee Cream and a Milk Chocolate Digestive Biscuit.

This year Bisks are backing the whole range with big new advertising, big new promotions and colourful display items for you. Back a good winner, back a good loser. You'll win both ways.



The loser

Bisks are backing both to win you lots of new business.

Last year Bisks came out on the side of slimmers. A totally new approach recognised their problems. Now there are 60,000 good losers in the Bisks Slimmers' Club: confirmed customers for you, *and* saleswomen to bring you in lots of new business. This year Bisks are backing them — and you — with even stronger advertising in colour in Woman, Woman's Own, Woman's Weekly, Woman's Realm, Family Circle, Woman & Home and in black and white in the Daily Mirror. So back yourself to win by getting Bisks into an eye-catching (and mouth-watering) place on your shelves for 1969.



Per te solum Chemist only Bonus on Chemist only Products.



Joy-Rides

New junior travel-sickness tablets

- Specially formulated for children
- Fast acting and pleasant tasting
- Melt in the mouth

This new entry into the expanding travel-sickness field was test marketed in 1968 and proved to be an instant success. National distribution in 1969 will be supported by a five-month peak-season campaign of large-space compelling advertisements to mothers in:

Woman, Woman's Own, Reader's Digest, Woman's Realm, Mother, Family Circle, Woman and Home, Woman's Weekly, My Home and Family.

Handy wallets of 12 tablets strip-packed in laminated foil. Retail price 3/- each. Purchase tax nil. Packed in attractive display outers containing 18 wallets.

Bonus - each outer of 18 wallets charged as 15. Total outlay per box, 30/-; Return 54/- . PROFIT ON RETURN = 44.5%.

Large size
retail price 5/1
Economy size
retail price 7/6



Sensodyne

the toothpaste recommended by dentists, sold by chemists!

Over 80 per cent of all dentists give Sensodyne their professional endorsement (validated by Dental Survey). Its effectiveness in relieving pain due to dental hypersensitivity has been confirmed by double-blind clinical studies.

Display and sell this fast-growing brand.

BONUS - each dozen large size charged as 11 and/or each half-dozen economy size charged as 5 e.g. 1 dozen large plus half-dozen economy shows profit of 38.5%.

Order Now

**Bonus Offers end
25 April 1969.**

Direct Accounts. Please order from your Stafford-Miller Representative, who will be calling shortly. Bonuses can then be taken in conjunction with direct parcel terms!

To Stafford-Miller Ltd., 166, Gt. North Rd., Hatfield, Herts.
Please send direct and invoice through my wholesaler:

.....outers of 18 Joy-Rides charged as 15
.....dozen Sensodyne Large charged as 11
.....half-dozen Sensodyne Economy charged as 5

Retailer's name:

Full address:

Wholesaler:

“adagio launch an overwhelming success”

Hazel Evans, Editor of Vanity Fair.

We said it would be—and how right we were! The response to our promotion in Vanity Fair was terrific. And we got great results from our powerful press and T.V. campaigns.

In the 8 months since the launch 3,500 adagio stockists have been appointed and 7,000 orders taken.

We took a survey and discovered that over half the Fiona Sands stockists were sold out. And demand for the range is still on the increase.

These are the new adagio prices:
Perfume 29/6 and 16/6. Fragrant Mist 21/-. Day
Fragrance 16/6. Cream Perfume 16/6. Talc 8/6.

Enquiries to E. Copley, Sales Director, Jean Sorelle Ltd., 111/113 Great Portland Street, London, W.1.
Telephone: 01-580 1312.

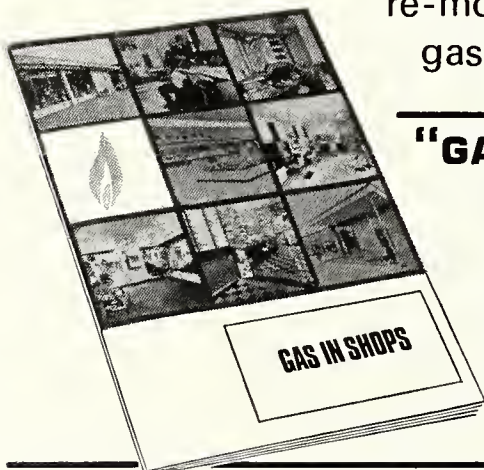


adagio—the scentsational new fragrance from fiona sands

MORE COMFORT.. MORE CUSTOM

A comfortably warm shop attracts trade—customers come—linger, spend more and return, time after time. Assistants work better—sell better.

Gas is the cleanest, least obtrusive and most efficient fuel for shop heating and hot water systems—highly economical too. Whether you're building, re-modelling or adding heating for the first time, gas is the natural choice.



"GAS IN SHOPS"

This new publication shows how gas is used for heating shops of every kind. The many convenient forms of radiators and warm air convectors are fully described and illustrated, with examples of typical installations and running costs.

Fill in the coupon for a free copy of "Gas in Shops" or contact the Commercial Manager of your Gas Board—he'll be glad to give you any advice and practical help you may need. Discuss with him the even greater benefit that Natural Gas from the North Sea will bring.

Please send me a free copy of "Gas in Shops" by return of post.

Name.....

Address.....

..... Type of Shop.....

To: The Gas Council Commercial Catering & Heating Centre,
139 Tottenham Court Road, London W.1.
Tel. 01-387 4147.

G. 15b

**HIGH
SPEED
GAS**



**Your
customers' faces
are pretty Dirty
and we're telling
them so!**

... telling them now in provocative ads in the women's pages of the Sunday Times and the Observer. Telling them that their faces are dirtier than they think and that a simple test with cotton wool soaked in Scherk Face Lotion will prove it...dramatically.

Scherk Face Lotion, a gentle, effective non-drying cleanser, removes the deep-down dirt every skin accumulates, and helps to prevent blackheads and blemishes forming in clogged-up pores.

The Scherk story will be told again and again to the beauty conscious readers of the quality Sunday press. Scherk Face Lotion comes in an elegant bottle and is available in three sizes at 6/11, 12/10, 23/9.

There's an eye-catching display unit too.

Make sure you have Scherk in stock!



SCHERK
Face Lotion
**FOR CLEAR SKIN
CLEANLINESS**

FROM YOUR WHOLESALE.
Or direct from J. L. Perl Ltd.,
8 Esterbrooke Street, London, SW1. Tel: 01-834 8843/4



C & D

CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

ESTABLISHED 1859

THE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER FOR PHARMACY
and all sections of the drug, pharmaceutical,
fine chemical, cosmetics, and allied industries
*Official organ of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland
and of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland*

Volume 191

March 22, 1969

No. 4649

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for chemists

shopfronts

factory built at low cost



This Shopfront 16ft x 9ft

for only **£431** Ex Works
COMPLETE WITH GLASS

Would represent a cash investment — written off over 5 years — of only

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LVP SHOPFITTERS
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Address _____
Telephone _____

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2-3 DAYS**

Delivered to site fully assembled
Within 14 Days of order

**600
DESIGNS**

Available from stock
In Hardwood & Aluminium
sections or completely fabri-
cated in Anodised Aluminium

**TAKE 36
MONTHS
TO PAY**

The Ex Works price
of this shopfront could be
repaid over 3 years for
less than 60/- weekly



C&D

CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

Volume 191

MARCH 22, 1969

No. 4649

Mixing Tablet Batches

"POOR PRACTICE" SAYS ANALYST

"MIXING of different batches of tablets . . . is poor pharmaceutical practice and is especially so when the shapes are different, as it leads to loss of confidence and causes considerable concern to the patient." The Birmingham city analyst makes the comment in that part of his report for the quarter ended December 31, 1968, that deals with samples taken under the local hospital drug testing scheme.

A sample of eye ointment and six samples of various tablets complied with B.P. or B.P.C. requirements but one sample of bendrofluazide consisted of equal numbers of flat and convex tablets, each group being satisfactory when judged alone. A second complaint concerning the same tablets had since been received. Other samples during the quarter for the purposes of the Food and Drugs Act included a specimen of raspberry vinegar contaminated by internal corrosion of the cap "obviously old stock" and a tube of baby cream labelled as containing 0.01 per cent. of benzalkonium chloride but appearing to contain 0.2 per cent. It was discovered that the manufacturers had been including 0.2 per cent. of cetrimide. The two substances having similar properties "it seems pointless" to have 0.2 per cent. of cetrimide present and 0.01 per cent. of benzalkonium chloride." The analyst's view is that the amount of cetrimide should have been declared on the label, so as to satisfy the Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941. A sample of benzocaine throat lozenges stated to contain 5 mg benzocaine in each actually contained only 3.5 mg. The sample was eighteen months old "and it is known that benzocaine deteriorates during storage."

Electrical Appliances

FLEX COLOUR CODE CHANGEOVER

ANTICIPATING statutory control over the colours used for flexible cables and cords on domestic electrical appliances, the British Standards Institution has issued a new British Standard, B.S. 4410 "The Connection of Flexible Cables and Cords to Appliances" (price 6s.). The standard shows the correct connections that should be made between apparatus, cable and plug and an appendix shows former coding and markings. It is expected to become illegal to sell electric blankets, health lamps and other elec-

trical appliances after the spring of 1970 unless the flexes meet the international colour code. Appliances with the new colouring—"live wire" is brown; "earth" is green and yellow and "neutral," blue—are already being delivered by some appliance makers. In view of the confusion that may arise through having two lots being on sale side by side, the Consumer Council has urged the Home Office to speed up the issue of the proposed new regulations stating that, for safety's sake the period during which appliances with one or other type of flex are on sale should be as short as possible. The Council understands that the electrical trade wants two years' grace before it becomes illegal to sell appliances with the old colour flexes but hope that the Home Office will not give way to pressure from the trade to defer the date until 1971, and suggest that the spring of 1970 would be late enough to bring in regulations after which it would be illegal to sell appliances fitted with the old flexes.

Medicine Spoons

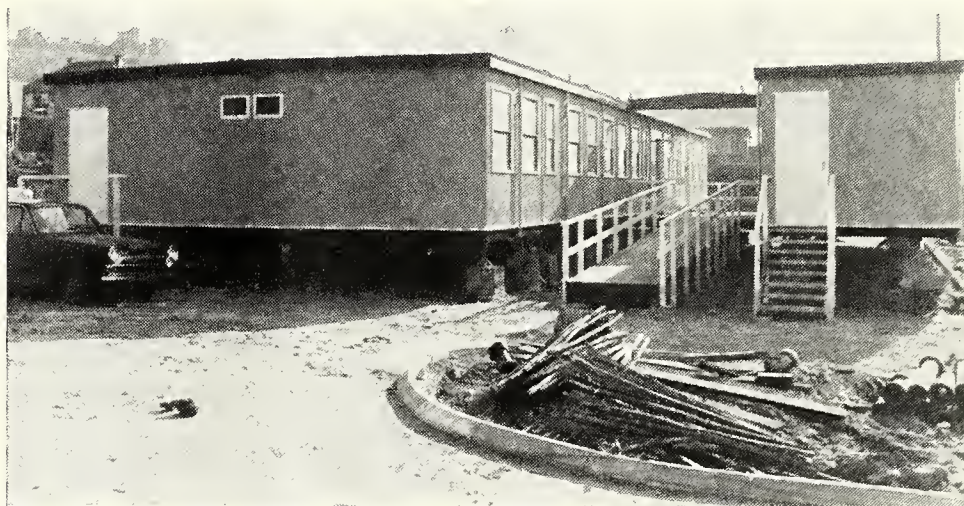
"INADEQUATE FOR OLD PEOPLE"

A REQUEST for a review of the design of the new metric medicine spoon to prevent old people taking overdoses has been made to the department of Health by the Old People's Welfare Committee at Sutton Coldfield, Warwicks. The request cited the case of one pensioner taking five spoonfuls of medicine instead of 5 ml because he did not understand how to use the spoon. Dr. J. R. Preston (medical officer of health, Sutton Coldfield), said: "These spoons are quite inadequate for old people and should be more clearly marked, possibly in colours, to enable them to dispense the correct dosage." An area welfare officer, said: "Such a dosage as 5 ml means nothing to an old person who has been taking medicine for years by teaspoonfuls and tablespoons."

Are Salesmen Overpaid?

INCREASED USE OF INCENTIVES

LATEST survey by Tack Research, Ltd., "Salesmen's Pay and Expenses 1969" shows that individual incentive payments—whether by bonus, commission or both—are steadily increasing. Top-earning salesmen in fourteen of the 616 varied companies forming the Tack stratified sample earned over £5,000 a year, but an income at that level was most likely for men selling capital equipment and paid on a salary-plus-commission basis. The report gives the incomes of the highest, lowest and



PHARMACY RELATED TO HEALTH CENTRE: Temporary health centre at Castlefields, Runcorn New Town, Ches (see C. & D., March 1, p. 181), on left-hand side in picture, is approached by a ramp and separated from the pharmacy (right) by a covered verandah.

average salesman so that executives, and doubtless salesmen, will relate their own company payments to those of comparable organisations. (Salesmen for pharmaceuticals are among the 160 companies grouped under "consumer goods"). Bonus and/or commission in nearly seven out of ten companies formed 30 per cent. or less of the average salesman's total pay, while the "commission only" salesman is becoming a rare individual, the report adds. The salesman without a motor car (usually company-owned or hired) is increasingly rare. Little indication is given of "luxury living" being permitted. Fixed payments for the salesman's lunch were within the 5s. to 7s. 6d. range and within the range of £51 to £100 a year. Copies of the report (price 84s. each) are available from the company at Longmoore Street, London, S.W.1.

Salaried Pharmacists

UNION PLANS TO EXPAND

MEMBERS of the Salaried Pharmacists Union agreed, at their annual meeting in London recently, that a Union development fund should be set up to promote the expansion of the union. Honorary members are being invited to subscribe half a guinea to "set the ball rolling." The council reported that, as in past years, much of the union's activity in 1968 had been on the personal level of service to members. They had also been active on the question of prescription charges, having sent a number of communications to the Ministry of Health, having had a confrontation with the Minister, and a broadcast of their views by the B.B.C. Dissatisfaction having been expressed during the year with the activities of the Central N.H.S. (Chemist Contractors) Committee, the Union secretary, Mr. D. J. Gibson, had allowed his name to go forward as a candidate for the 1969 Pharmaceutical

Committee election. Consideration was given to the Union's Group Insurance Scheme and as no member had, so far, made any claim on the scheme, and the majority were found to have personal schemes in operation, it was decided to discontinue the scheme.

The following were declared council members for the year:—

R. F. Abbott, East Barnet, Herts; S. A. Ashley, Bristol; F. Baker, Morecambe; S. Durham, Sheffield; R. Hutchison, London; A. G. M. Madge, Plymouth; A. G. Reed, Leeds; R. Sykes, Ilford, Essex; G. H. Sheard, Dartford, Kent; C. Turner, Stoke-on-Trent; with D. J. Gibson, London, as secretary.

Dispensing Measures

REVISED SPECIFICATION PUBLISHED

FOLLOWING publication of a revised edition of B.S. 1922—Dispensing measures for pharmaceutical purposes (metric units)—the corresponding specification in Imperial Units (B.S. 1921) has been withdrawn. The new standard specifies conical measures of 5, 10, 25, 50, 100 and 250 ml capacity, the 50 ml size being in both tall and squat types, and beaker measures of 500 and 1,000 ml capacity. The 25 and 250 ml sizes thus replace the 20 and 200 ml sizes of the previous 1953 edition. Pharmacists' pipettes are no longer included in the standard owing to a lack of demand for them, but suitable pipettes for many pharmaceutical purposes are included in B.S. 700: "Graduated pipettes." Copies of B.S. 1922: 1969 may be obtained from the B.S.I. Sales Branch, 101 Pentonville Road, London, N.1 (Price 8s.; or 10s. to non-subscribers).

"Square" Lectures

CHEMISTRY OF THE PROSTAGLANDINS

FOLLOWING precedent, the School of Pharmacy, University of London, has included in its academic year a duet of lectures by a scientist eminent in his own subject. This year the subject was the prostaglandins, their

chemistry, biosynthesis and metabolism, and the lecturer was the Swede, Professor Bengt Samuelsson (Royal Veterinary College, Stockholm). Professor Horton presided. Professor Samuelsson showed a succession of slides illustrating nuances of structural variation between the members of the series, and described the conversion into prostaglandins within the body of certain essential factors. The second lecture was given over to Professor Samuelsson's recent work on the metabolism of the prostaglandins, some of it so new as to have been done since the lecture was booked. Among the students as they listened were many invited hearers from industry and from other academic institutions.

University Admissions

CENTRAL COUNCIL'S REPORT

THE sixth report of the Universities Central Council on Admissions shows that in 1968 more candidates applied for pharmacy courses through the Council than in 1967. Pharmacy was the first choice of 1,196 candidates (692 men, 504 women) in 1968, against 1,060 in 1967. Of the total number of candidates 614 (530 in 1967) were accepted by universities for a pharmacy course, 330 of them men. Including candidates not admitted through U.C.C.A., total of first-year students was 606 (328 men). Fifty of them were from overseas. The Universities Central Council on Admissions acts as a clearing house for university place applications but does not cover pharmacy courses at colleges.

Computer for Medicine

RESEARCH COUNCIL OPENS NEW UNIT

THE Medical Research Council's London computer unit was formally opened at 242 Pentonville Road, London, N.1, on March 11 by Mr. Edward Short (Secretary of State for Education and Science). A £280,000 computer has been installed and will be used to provide a service to Council units and workers in the London area and to develop uses of computers as research tools. One activity being studied is a method of automatic examination of microscopical preparations of chromosomes. It is also hoped to use the computer to study epidemiological trends — such as would have shown up the effects of thalidomide at a much earlier stage.

IRISH NEWS

THE REPUBLIC

Thefts from Pharmacies

SOCIETY ISSUES WARNING

ALARMED at an increase in number of thefts of drugs from dispensaries, the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland has recommended to its members that they should review their existing precautions for the safe storage of drugs, as it is feared that thieves may turn their attentions to private pharmacies when greater security measures are adopted in the public dispensaries. The secretary of Dublin Health Authority (Mr. Ronald Lambe) commenting on the increasing number

MINISTER TOLD OF I.D.A. FUNCTIONS

And committee ends transport company contract

THE Committee of the Irish Drug Association, at its monthly meeting in Dublin on March 13, took action on a number of matters. First it decided formally to terminate an arrangement with Coras Iompair Eireann (the public transport company), under which I.D.A. members supplied certain medical preparations to the company's employees at contract prices.

Next it fixed the hours of operation during the Easter period for pharmacies in the greater Dublin area. They are: Holy Thursday, usual hours; Good Friday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Holy Saturday, usual hours; Easter Sunday and Easter Monday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Committee considered a progress report on the work of the Joint Negotiating Committee and unanimously adopted a proposal expressing confidence in that committee.

It heard the report upon a meeting on February 24 between the Minister for Labour (Dr. Hillery), the Association's president (Mr. Malachy Brophy) and secretary (Mr. B. R.

Smith), at which the delegation had been asked to explain the objects and functions of the I.D.A., with particular reference to wages, conditions of employment and allied matters. The Minister had explained that he wished to familiarise himself with the activities of various groups, such as the I.D.A., holding negotiating licences or registered under the Trade Unions Act.

Finally the Committee fixed the time and date of the annual meeting (at 8 p.m. on May 19). Venue of the meeting in Dublin is being notified to members at a later date.

Considerable resentment was expressed by members of the Committee when it was reported that the principal of an English-based subsidiary of a continental cosmetic manufacturing company, specialising in hair preparations, had written to the Irish Revenue Commissioners suggesting how the Irish wholesale tax should be calculated or operated. The meeting felt that the suggestion would be to the detriment of the Irish community pharmacist.

of thefts from dispensaries, revealed that, since August 1968, at least £5,000 had been spent on efforts to make the dispensaries burglar-proof. The Authority intended to spend more money on the project in the future, but did not want to overspend because the services at dispensaries are to be taken over by the retail pharmacies.

IRISH BREVITIES

A REGISTERED DRUGGIST, Mr. Humphrey Gibbs, 15 Midleton Street, Cobh, co. Cork, was fined £2 and ordered to pay £3 3s. costs at the local court recently when he pleaded guilty to a summons, brought by the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, of having dispensed a medical prescription.

NEWS IN BRIEF

THE Home Office announce the withdrawal of authorities under the Dangerous Drugs Act 1965 from Paul Graham Harris, M.B.C.H.B., 19A Kings Road, Richmond, Surrey.

THE National Health Service (General Dental Services) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1969 (H.M. Stationery Office, price ninepence) make provision for chemists to dispense on form EC14 only listed drugs approved by the Secretary of State. Similar regulations were recently issued for England and Wales (see *C. & D.*, March 8, p. 204).

THE B.B.C. is marking the first anniversary of the death of Lord Florey in Radio 4 on Friday, March 28 with "Lord Florey," a study by Robert Pocock of Howard Florey who, with his team of research workers, followed up Sir Alexander Fleming's original discovery of penicillin by obtaining it in concentrated form and demonstrating its efficacy.

PART one of the report of the Committee of Inquiry on Foot-and-mouth Disease (chairman the Duke of Northumberland) has been presented to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. It deals with the main policy issues. Part two will cover control procedures and arrangements for dealing with outbreaks as they occur.

A NEW edition of "A Career in the British Pharmaceutical Industry," covering research, manufacture, quality control, administration and marketing, has been published by the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, 162 Regent Street, London, W.1.

SPORT

GOLF

SOUTH LONDON AND SURREY PHARMACISTS' GOLFING SOCIETY. The pre-season golf meeting held at Banstead Golf Club on March 5 was attended by fifty-three members and visitors, who took part in a Stableford competition. *Results:* Members, 1, A. Talbot (Woodcote Park) 30 points; 2, A. Reary (Cromham Hurst), 28 points; 3, S. G. Mote (Walton Heath), 27 points; 4, J. Martin (Ifield) 26 points. *Best score on first nine holes*, P. Fernandez. *Best score on last nine holes*, H. Duckering. *Visitors*, 1, J. Ahearn (Wimbledon), 35 points; 2, G. McCandish (Banstead), 33 points. After golf a supper was held in the club house at which the president of the Society (Mr. J. Lawson Wrathall) presided.

TOPICAL REFLECTIONS

By Xrayser

As Before

We hear, from time to time, that the bottle of medicine is on the way out, and that the tablet and capsule will eventually bring about its total disappearance from the scene. It has taken the advent of metric dispensing and the issue of plastic spoons to emphasise that that state of affairs is not just round the corner. Indeed, it has seemed that there has been a renewed interest in liquid medicines since March 3, but common sense suggests that that is an illusion, and that the use of new directions and the supply of the medicine spoon have focused attention on that form of medication to the exclusion of others. The myriad selection of antibiotic elixirs, mixtures and syrups ensures the survival of what used to be stigmatised by Sir Kingsley Wood as "the bottle habit," and cough mixtures, stomach mixtures and laxatives make their own contribution to a world which changes less rapidly than some of the experts imagine or would like. The day of the fresh infusion has gone, together with that of the decoction, the demise of both of which I have witnessed. I had been a good number of years in pharmacy before a concentrated infusion of buchu was permissible, and there were physicians who insisted (in Latin, be it said) that the kettle be boiled and the leaves freshly bruised for their own particular prescriptions. And, even when a fresh infusion was not specifically demanded, the practice persisted so that the apprentice would acquire skill in the art. My early years saw also a witch's brew of decoction of logwood chips, in a large metal pan, and we were closer then to the seventeenth century than we will ever be again. The coming of a formulary has altered the picture considerably, and it is seldom that the physician follows the old uncharted ways that led to results of a surprising and sometimes spectacular nature, and in many instances to learned correspondence in your columns. The nearest we get to that situation is when a modern medico attempts to hasten recovery by prescribing a mixture of three proprietary preparations of which the delicate balance is a mystery.

Changing Times

Despite the satisfaction provided by turning out a batch of perfectly spherical pills, there can surely be few whose reverence for the past makes them want the clock put back so as to permit them to exhibit their skills in that direction. Even at its best the pill was not the most elegant form of medication, and could never rival in accuracy the tablet of today, or in appearance the multi-coloured capsules of the present decade. We have come a long way aesthetically from the time when the medicament was supplied in the form of a bolus—a softish pill "mass"—from which a piece of specified size was broken off, rounded between finger and thumb, and dispatched with a draught of wine. Yet one can readily appreciate the need for heroic medicine 200 years ago, when food did not come in hygienic sealed tins, and was not kept in a refrigerator, and when food poisoning necessitated strong purging or large doses of ipecacuanha powder. One might even have imagined that food regulations, pure water supply, better living conditions with all the advantages of efficient sanitation, would have brought about a marked reduction in the consumption of drugs and medicines. Such does not seem to have been the case, but we can never forget that access to medical care was only for the few in the eighteenth century, and for the minority until well on into the present century. In a civilised country there should be no barrier to medical care. We took a backward step in June 1968 when prescription charges were reintroduced.

Council Meeting

I note from the report of the March meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society (p. 239) that we may expect an early report on the subject of a revised Statement upon Matters of Professional Conduct. Though the report gives no indication, I hope that it is the intention, when the final draft has been considered, to submit it to the branches with an adequate period of time for consideration. The summer months would not be the best time.

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY SAFETY

Working Party urges "intense pressure" to maintain safety practices

WHEN the report "Manpower in the Chemical Industry" was published by the Economic Development Committee for the Chemical Industry, one of its recommendations was that the British Chemical Industry Safety Council should examine American safety practices in detail. The point was taken. A working party was set up and three of its members went over to America. Terms of reference of the trio were to examine and report upon works safety practices, procedures and organisation in the United States with particular reference to those chemical companies which were consistently achieving good safety records; to investigate and report upon the introduction into the United Kingdom of American safety practices judged to be appropriate to this country, with particular reference to the experience and achievements of American-owned chemical companies in the United Kingdom.

What the three observed, and what the B.C.I.S.C. now recommend are given in a 51-page report, "Safe and Sound," just published, which is being widely circulated to interested parties and which others may buy (12s. per copy) from the Association's Accounts Officer, Alembic House, 93 Albert Embankment, London, S.E.1.

Statistical Comparisons

Based on a study of five large chemical companies (acknowledged among the U.S. chemical industry's leaders in both safety and profitability) and on four small companies (because many C.I.A. members are small), the report gives comprehensive information on how those companies achieve and maintain their safety performances. Because of differences in U.K. and U.S. methods of calculating accident statistics, statistical comparisons are based on safety performances of U.K. subsidiaries of the American companies studied. One comment made by the chairman of the British Chemical Industry Safety Council (Mr. G. HICKSON), in introducing the report at a Press conference in London on March 12, was that chemical companies in the U.S., and their associates in the U.K., believe that accident and loss prevention are necessary for good profitability. "The logical consequence of this is that the pursuit of safety at work, and often off-the-job, is conducted with all the vigour that is applied to any other important aspect of business activity. The seriousness with which the subject is treated is revealed by the fact that the company attitude to safety is invariably described in a written policy statement emanating from management—normally the board. The implementation of their company's safety policies is characterised by an intensity and systematic approach which is almost unknown in U.K. companies."

The report gives detailed information about safety organisation in the large U.S. companies visited, which were (U.K. subsidiary in parenthesis):—Dow Chemical Co. (Dow Chemical

Co. (U.K.), Ltd.; E. J. Du Pont de Nemours & Co. (Du Pont Co., Ltd.); Monsanto Co. (Monsanto Chemicals, Ltd.); Procter & Gamble Co. (Procter & Gamble, Ltd.); and Rohm & Hass Co. (Lennig Chemicals, Ltd.). The four small companies (recommended by the American Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc., as having good safety performance in relation to size) were J. T. Baker Chemical Co., Callery Chemical Co., Glyco Chemicals, Inc., and Ventron Corporation (metal hydrides division).

All the companies used the system of measuring accident performance which is recommended by the M.C.A. and known as Z16 (the system defines methods of compiling safety statistics as the basis for checking safety performance). Four of the U.K. subsidiaries, using the parent companies' methods, achieved by the B.C.I.S.C. method in the four-year period 1964-67 an average accident frequency rate of 0.490 against an average for all C.I.A. member companies of 1.59.

Safety policy in America is based on the beliefs that, for maximum profitability and efficient operation, it is necessary to reduce to a minimum all damage to people and property whether through accident or fire, and that management has a responsibility to its employees to provide a safe place of work.

Responsibility for safe working is clearly placed on line management. There are two safety committees, one consisting of management only, a second including payroll employees. All managers and foremen are given training in their safety responsibility. Every management establishes safety rules, and modifies or adds to them.

SOCIETY'S "DISCIPLINE" CRITICISED

Little pressure to improve pharmacists' services, say consumers

"NEGATIVE pressures on a pharmacist not to advertise his services, however good they may be, are much greater than the positive pressures to improve his services to the public," says the Consumer Council in an additional submission to the Monopolies Commission's inquiry into the professions. The Consumer Council's evidence, which examines the professions' disciplinary procedures, goes on to say that checks on the unauthorised sales of poisons and Dangerous Drugs are effective, but that the public still voice considerable dissatisfaction when delays occur in handling prescriptions; when a chemist is out of stock of a particular medicine; and when, in spite of special arrangements made between chemists in an area, it is hard to find a chemist open after normal closing hours.

Recent inquiries by the Pharmaceutical Society's Statutory Committee are outlined, and exception is taken to certain charges against a company relating to an article in a local newspaper which advertised the services of a pharmacy. Points from the article are quoted:—"The aim was to give the public a service which would mean that it was not necessary to make two

written operating instructions being provided for all operating plants. Instructions cover the normal and emergency procedures, including a clear definition of the operator's "limits of control," which differentiate between normal, correctable and hazardous operating conditions.

All the large companies have corporate safety departments and, at plant level, a safety manager or director, one or more safety engineers, a fire chief and staff assistants. The smaller plants may have a safety engineer only.

A feature of U.S. industrial medical services is the status given to the company or plant medical officer. He is regarded as a member of the management team and functions as such. Medical officers are employed at all locations—on a part-time basis in the smaller plants, and liaison between the medical and safety departments is close. An important part of the control system, consists of the safety audits, inspections or surveys.

Mr. Hickson said that the British chemical industry's safety record was good but could be better. He had that day received details of the 1969 awards in the Association's Pennant competition; thirty-six certificates had been awarded, of which twenty-six were for twelve months' accident-free operation. Of the remainder, the worst had a record of only 0.56 accidents per 100,000 man hours worked. The Association, said Mr. Hickson would be suggesting to the British Standards Institution that it should institute a safety standard for the industry. The Association would also be organising meetings in various centres at which the report would be discussed. The aim is to secure vigorous action, along the lines proposed by all companies, within the industry.

journeys to have a prescription filled out. . . . Even the most difficult prescription will be filled out very quickly so that customers will only have to wait for five to ten minutes. . . . now open from 9 a.m. till 8 p.m." These, says the Consumer Council, are all claims relating to service which, if correct, would be of some advantage to the customer. Yet the Statutory Committee rarely hears cases involving a pharmacist who has been found not to be providing a good service to the customer.

Having examined and generally criticised also the disciplinary machinery of solicitors, architects and accountants, the Council concludes that professional bodies would go some way towards alleviating "this unsatisfactory situation" if they were to recommend to complainants a member, or a group of members, who would be obliged to give a second professional opinion on their cases. Another contribution, it suggests, would be for professional bodies dealing with complaints to include a proportion of lay members. The Council's evidence is published in full in the April issue of its magazine *Focus*.

COUNCIL AND BRANCH RESOLUTIONS

Report on May decisions

THE Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain has issued a report on Resolutions passed at the Branch Representatives' Meeting in May 1968 (see *C. & D.*, May 25, 1968, p. 474). The following is a summary.

Regional Representation

That it is the opinion of this meeting that the Council should fully investigate the structure of the Council and the electoral system with a view to ensuring a measure of regional representation in addition to individual representation.

The arrangements for regional organisation were implemented at the beginning of 1969.

Practical Training

That it is the opinion of this meeting that the Society should investigate methods of control of the conditions applying throughout the practical training.

After preliminary consideration, the Education Committee decided that future arrangements for post-graduate experience should provide an opportunity for all pharmacists, irrespective of their field of practice, to be registered as Pharmaceutical Chemists and therefore to become members of the Society. It was felt that this objective should be pursued, rather than consider some alternative form of membership for those pharmacists whose employment does not legally require them to be registered. At the same time, the statutory purpose of registration should be recognised in any new arrangements. A working party was appointed to consider, in detail, all aspects of practical training and it is hoped that a report will be presented to Council before the autumn of 1969. The Council will then consult interested pharmaceutical organisations before any new arrangements are finally agreed.

Rural Dispensing

That it is the opinion of this meeting that the Council should continue to pursue with the appropriate authorities the problem of rural dispensing.

Since there were no developments in the autumn of 1968, the Society and the Central N.H.S. Committee sought a meeting with the Minister of State for Health, Mr. David Ennals, and that meeting took place on January 27, 1969, when Mr. Ennals made it clear that he had not yet come to a decision on the possible amendment of Regulation 27 of the N.H.S. (General Medical and Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations which deal, among other things, with the "one mile limit." He said that as a new Minister he wished to meet representatives of pharmacy and of the medical profession so that he would have, at first hand, the views of the two professions. After pharmacy's case had been put to Mr. Ennals, the Minister said that he understood the feelings of the representatives of pharmacy over the long delay in settling the matter. Mr. Ennals gave the impression that a decision would be taken on the matter without a further lengthy delay. When it was

announced that Baroness Serota was to be Health Minister, the Department of Health and Social Security was asked for comments on the question of dispensing in rural areas, in particular whether Mr. Ennals had met representatives of the medical profession. In their reply, the Department stated that Mr. Ennals had reported fully to the Secretary of State (Mr. Richard Crossman) about the views expressed on behalf of pharmacy at the meeting on January 27. A meeting was currently being arranged with representatives of the medical profession. Mr. Crossman did not consider that a further meeting with representatives of pharmacy was necessary at present but would certainly ask for one if he felt that it would be useful.

Sealing of Containers

That it is the opinion of this meeting that the attention of manufacturers and wholesalers should be drawn to the need to ensure that all medicines are supplied in containers sealed in such a manner that tampering with the pack during transit can be easily detected.

The National Association of Pharmaceutical Distributors was sympathetic to the terms of the resolution and its members would be recommended to seal outer containers holding drugs controlled under the Drugs (Prevention of Misuse) Act 1964 on a voluntary

basis, until suitable legislation is made to cover the point.

The reply from the A.B.P.I. stated that members of their Standard Drug Manufacturers Division had earlier accepted a recommendation that packs of amphetamines and similar products should be specially taped or sealed so that any attempt at pilfering would easily be recognised. Several of those members of the A.B.P.I. who manufacture speciality products controlled under the Drugs (Prevention of Misuse) Act had already introduced special pilfer-proof packs and similar arrangements were under consideration by other manufacturers.

Pack Sizes

That it is the opinion of this meeting that manufacturers should be asked to consider reducing the size of packs of amphetamine and similar drugs so that smaller stocks more appropriate to present requirements could be held in each individual pharmacy.

A reply from the Department of Health and Social Security was received in February 1969 indicating that they had not yet reached firm conclusions on the matter. They added that the question of what constitutes reasonable stock levels would arise during continuing discussions with the Home Office and, when it did, the Department would "be ready to consider what support we can provide." The Central N.H.S. (Chemists Contractors) Committee have requested a meeting with the Department to discuss the matter.

DISTRIBUTIVE TRAINING BOARD

Interim grant proposals for current year

THE Distributive Industry Training Board has made interim proposals on grants for the period August 1968 to July 1969 (that is, to cover training now in progress). Levy proposals have yet to be decided.

Grants will be made by the Board towards the cost of rent and equipment of training accommodation; training officers' salaries; approved off-the-job courses during working time, including wages and salaries; tuition and examination fees (including fees for courses relevant to occupations in the industry, courses leading to a professional qualification, recognised trade-association courses and training officers' courses); fees for relevant short courses or conferences provided by recognised bodies; necessary fares and expenses, and group training schemes. During the current grant period, appropriate trade-association correspondence courses are being recognised but in future they must be complemented by time off for study during working hours.

In development areas the Board intends to pay, on behalf of the Department of Employment and productivity, capital grants for off-the-job training places and purchases of plant and machinery or *per-capita* grants for additional apprentices — subject to certain conditions. For all areas the Board will make D.E.P. grants towards running expenses for additional off-the-job training places. Grants will be made only to employers who have paid any levies due. The present statement

is without prejudice to the Board's future policy, and is intended only as an indication of the areas in which grants will be paid, to assist planning of training programmes in the current year. Full details are in the information sheet available from the Board at Cumberland House, Lissadel Street, Salford, M6 6FJ, Lancs.

Conferences for Trade Organisations

A number of policy decisions taken by the Board were outlined to representatives of trade associations at one-day conferences held in London on March 18, 19 and 20. Mr. G. R. GAY (chairman, levy-grant committee) said the Board had agreed that levy would be charged on a percentage of payroll basis. In the first year the levy would be uniform over all sections of the industry, but the system would be re-examined in the light of experience. Also in the first year there would have to be some lower level of payroll below which employers would be excluded from the scheme, though as a point of principle, those falling below the line would be allowed to associate themselves voluntarily with the scheme by paying the minimum levy. Later, however, the Board's director (LORD MOTTISTONE), who will have to carry through any decisions, stated that it may be necessary to "backpeddle" on the voluntary admission of small employers in the early stages if the cost of administration proved too great in relation to the levy they paid. MR.

GAY said that the rate of levy should be decided by the Board in May or June and perhaps agreed by the Department of Employment and Productivity in June or July.

Chairman of the Board (MR. G. A. SPENCER) said the aim of the first year was to do a few things well rather than a lot badly. He would have preferred a year to get the facts right before producing even an interim scheme but that was not possible. They were developing a training subcommittee structure geared to the needs of the industry onto which could be brought representatives of sectional interests. Here Mr. Spencer stressed the importance of trade associations — it was not possible for the Board to have direct individual contact with each of the many small units it covered and correspondence alone was not sufficient. He hoped associations would appoint training officers, who would be granted, from their own trades. Among the ideas being investigated was the provision of group training schemes by a number of small employers in one area and section of the industry. Dealing with records of training that would be required by the Board, Mr. Spencer said there would have to be some uniformity, but he was exploring whether

“global” totals of costs might be “certified” by a chief executive, the total to be balanced against the levy due so that only a small sum need pass either way between the Board and an employer. That would overcome companies’ difficulties in obtaining finance to pay the levy in the first place.

MR. J. PHILLIPS (chairman, training committee) said the immediate priorities were management training and the training of training officers. On-the-job training would play an important rôle in the Board’s scheme but because of difficulties of definition and evaluation it could not be recognised in the interim scheme.

During the first day’s discussion period, it was asked whether the directors of a close company would count as “employees” for the purposes of levy. It was said in reply that the Industrial Training Act did not define an “employee” but a tribunal decision in relation to the construction industry board was that a director who did more in the business than attend meetings was an employee. It was up to the board to give their definition when setting the levy. If levy were not paid, then nor would grant in respect of that person — and management training was most important.

DRUGS AND DRIVING

Need for warnings at time of prescribing

AN adjournment debate on the effect of drugs on drivers of cars was raised by MR. LESLIE HUCKFIELD in the House of Commons on March 12. He pointed out that in 1967 family doctors in England and Wales issued more than 271 million National Health Service prescriptions for drugs; 20 million prescriptions were for sleeping tablets and 60 million for barbiturates. A report by the Automobile Association had shown that in a survey 945 drivers of private cars and commercial vehicles were asked if they had taken pills or medicine of any kind before the interview; 140 said they had done so. If that proportion were extended over the whole of the motoring population, then at any time, 2 million motorists would be driving under the influence of medicines or drugs. He was not talking only about the “obvious” drugs, such as heroin, cocaine and cannabis, but “ordinary, everyday medicines like antidepressants, antihistamines, amphetamines and the kind of thing that in many cases it is possible for the general practitioner to prescribe, and in even more cases can be bought over the chemist’s counter.”

General awareness of the problem had been shown by the Medical Research Council and British Medical Association. Unfortunately, the Dunlop Committee had said that consideration of the subject was outside its terms of reference. Mr. Huckfield said that Professor A. H. Beckett, “who did pioneering work at the Mexico Olympics,” had started on the problem of measurement, which was the big problem because, though it was comparatively easy to measure alcohol in the blood stream, with drugs it was much more difficult. What was wanted was some tighter medical control

over the prescribing of psycho-active drugs. Doctors should far more frequently, as part of prescription practice, advise patients that everyday drugs could be dangerous and lead to accidents or impair a driver’s capabilities. More manufacturers should follow the lead given by Abbott Laboratories, Ltd., in informing doctors that some of their products might affect the driving capabilities of patients. There must also be far more research into the medical aspects and into the effect of legislation.

MR. BOB BROWN (Joint Parliamentary, Secretary, Ministry of Transport), welcoming the debate, said that the influence of drugs on driving and their effect on road safety had received comparatively little attention. It must be asked how large was the problem and how amenable to treatment. It was not an easy subject in which to conduct research, because of the wide range of drugs having differing effects on different people. The figures quoted in the A.A. study contrasted with the results of a limited pilot study by the Road Research Laboratory, from which preliminary indications were that the number of accidents attributable to drugs was negligible. The work was being pursued, but it seemed most unlikely that some of the more extreme estimates would be substantiated.

The Minister referred to the cautionary wording used on antihistamines and said it might be possible to extend that arrangement to other drugs. “It will be a natural subject for consideration by the expert committees which are to be set up under the Medicines Act.” For drugs obtainable on prescription, the real need was for the doctor to give the patient a warning when he made out the prescription.

MEASLES VACCINE

A Maker suspends supplies

SUPPLIES of Wellcovax measles serum have been suspended by the makers, Burroughs Wellcome & Co. The decision was taken because of recent reports of a few isolated cases involving the central nervous system which arose in children within about eight days of vaccination. The makers state that over one million doses of the vaccine have already been safely used in the U.K. and a total of more than 5 million in the world as a whole. Retailers holding stocks of the Wellcovax vaccine may return them for credit. Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd., state their measles vaccine is prepared from a different strain to Wellcovax and they are continuing manufacture.

NITRAZEPAM

Unidentified tablets warning

THE Health Ministers have advised pharmacists, dispensing doctors and hospitals not to use any preparation of nitrazepam, other than Mogadan tablets (Roche Products, Ltd.), until other tablets understood to be circulating in the United Kingdom have been approved by the Committee on Safety of Drugs. It has come to the attention of the Committee that unidentified tablets purporting to be nitrazepam have been distributed and the Committee is concerned that patients may be treated without an opinion having been passed on their safety. Mogadon tablets are flat and white in colour, bearing the imprint “Roche” with two semicircles on one side and a single score on the other. The unidentified tablets are similar in appearance but do not carry the name “Roche.”

PHYSICS EXHIBITION

New apparatus

A PRODUCTION model of the Porton needleless jet injector was on show at the Physics exhibition, held at Alexandra Palace, London, N.22, March 10-13. It was on the stand of its makers, Inertia Switch, Ltd., but is distributed by Schuco International, Ltd., Halliwick Court Place, Woodhouse Road, London, N.12. Up to 800 painless injections can be given per hour and studies at Guy’s Hospital have shown that cross infection is impossible. The injector has mechanical cocking and operation, no external power supply or air leads being required. Cost is about £175 per unit. An automatic isothermal dryer, shown by the Ministry of Technology’s Torry Research Station, has provided much higher viabilities, when used in drying sensitive organisms, than are obtainable by the centrifugal freeze-drying method. The prototype machine is more versatile than conventional and plant can be used at a wide range of drying temperatures.

Microscal, Ltd., 20 Mattock Lane, Ealing, London, W.5, exhibited a new instrument called the wide angle photosedimentometer, which extends the techniques of measurement available by the photosedimentometry method. It may be used in determinations of drug solubility.

IN PARLIAMENT

BY A MEMBER OF THE PRESS GALLERY, HOUSE OF COMMONS

"I WELCOME the action taken by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society in advising all pharmacists to refuse to dispense prescriptions for amphetamine sulphate powder," said MR. RICHARD CROSSMAN (Secretary of State, Social Services) in a written reply to MR. L. PAVITT on March 17. The Minister added there were no good grounds for any doctor to prescribe amphetamines in powder form. The Department was discussing with the medical and pharmaceutical professions ways of preventing misuse of the drug.

Accidental Poisoning of Children

MR. ROEBUCK asked about the number of children under the age of eight years who had died from poisoning as a result of inadvertently taking medicines not intended for them. Mr. Crossman in a written answer on March 14 provided the following:

DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER 10 YEARS OF AGE DUE TO ACCIDENTAL POISONING IN ENGLAND AND WALES					
	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Accidental poisoning by—					
Barbituric acid and derivatives ...	1	2	3	2	1
Aspirin and salicylates ...	6	13	8	2	6
Other analgesic and soporific drugs ...	1	1	5	7	7
Strychnine ...	—	—	—	1	—
Belladonna, hyoscine and atropine ...	—	—	—	1	—
Other and unspecified drugs ...	14	12	12	11	6
Totals ...	22	28	28	24	20

Safety Containers for Medicine

MR. ROEBUCK asked the Secretary of State for Social Services on March 14 whether he would make inquiries through the World Health Organisation about the practice in other countries of packing medicines in containers difficult for young children to open; and if he would seek powers with a view to establishing a Government factory to manufacture such containers for National Health Service medicines.

MR. CROSSMAN. The answer to the first part of the question is "Yes." I do not think the establishment of a Government factory would help.

Drug Synthesis

MR. L. PAVITT asked the Home Secretary whether he would introduce legislation to make it illegal to write or publish information on how to make drugs, including LSD and mescaline.

MR. ELYSTAN MORGAN (Parliamentary Secretary) in a written reply on March 17 said "I do not think restrictions in this form would be effective."

MR. A. EADIE asked the Secretary for Scotland how many exemptions from prescription charges had been granted since the reintroduction of prescription charges in Scotland, and how many complaints his Department had received about the administration of the scheme. MR. R. WILLIAM ROSS (Secretary of State, Scotland), in a written reply on March 13, indicated that in Scotland approximately 1,365,000 children up to fifteen years of age and approximately 609,000 persons aged sixty-five

and over were exempt on grounds of age. The latest available information indicated that the numbers of people exempt on other grounds were:

1. Expectant and nursing mothers	48,700
2. Persons suffering from a specified medical condition ...	31,300
3. Pre-payment certificates ...	3,200
4. War and service disablement pensioners ...	28,300
5. Persons in receipt of supplementary benefit and their dependants ...	160,000*
6. Persons assessed as needing help to pay the charges and their dependants ...	2,800

* Some of the people included in category 5 are also included in categories 1, 2 and 4; their number is not known.

Out of the 147 complaints received by the Department on the scheme as a whole only nine were about the administration of the scheme; all had been resolved.

Methedrine

MR. H. E. HOOSON asked the Secretary for Social Services on March 17 on what grounds Methedrine had been withdrawn from veterinary surgeons.

MR. CROSSMAN: In order to counteract the misuse of this drug by addicts, its manufacturers, with the agreement of the medical and pharmaceutical professions, undertook in 1968, for an initial period of one year, to restrict supplies to hospitals. The Minister of Agriculture is considering the possible need to make this drug available to veterinary surgeons.

Prescription Charges

MR. E. LEADBETTER asked the Secretary for Social Services when he expected to carry out a review of the scheme on prescription charges; and what causes attributable to the scheme were responsible for the fall in prescriptions estimated at £40m. a year.

MR. CROSSMAN, in a written answer on March 17, stated that the operation of the scheme was kept under constant review. He did not accept the estimate of the size of the reduction in the number of prescriptions, nor was it necessarily attributable only to the reintroduction of prescription charges.

Decimal Currency Bill

During the meeting of the Standing Committee on the Decimal Currency Bill on March 13 the Government resisted a demand that traders and businesses should be compensated for costs incurred by the change to decimal currency. MR. DICK TAVERNE (Minister

of State) agreed to pass on the Chancellor of the Exchequer a suggestion that free depreciation allowance should be given on the purchase of new business machinery. But he held out no great hope of the concession being granted. The main debate was on an Opposition amendment to authorise the Decimal Currency Board to consider representations for compensation in particular cases. That was contained in the Decimal Currency Act, 1967, but would be repealed by the present Bill.

Antidotes on Labels

MR. R. D. ROEBUCK asked MR. CROSSMAN about the consultations he had had with medical bodies concerning the desirability of printing on the containers of certain medical remedies the antidote for poisoning, as a means of safeguarding children. He also asked if the Minister would cause inquiries to be made through the World Health Organisation into the usefulness of the United States practice of printing the antidote for poisoning on the containers of certain medical remedies, with a view to its general adoption.

MR. CROSSMAN in a written reply on March 14 said: There have been no such consultations this year. I will make inquiries about the practice in the United States.

COMPANY NEWS

Previous year's figures in parentheses

P. P. PAYNE & SONS, LTD.—Profit for 1968 is £219,729 (£95,526) and after deduction of tax, £133,229 (£77,526). Ordinary dividend for year 22 per cent. (15 per cent.).

BULLOUGH SECURITIES, LTD.—Group surplus of £374,056 for 1968 includes £151,872 from their chemical division. The chairman (Mr. B. P. Jenks) states in his annual report that British Dyewood Co., Ltd., had recovered from the setback in 1967 and further progress was expected in the coming year.

FAIRBANK KIRBY, LTD., Grimsby and RAIMES & CO., LTD., York, amalgamated their interests on March 1. The two companies are continuing to trade under their separate names, with Mr. E. Allport as managing director of Fairbank Kirby, Ltd., and Mr. F. E. Dennis as managing director of Raimes and Co., Ltd., as previously.

SANITAS TRUST, LTD.—Announcing that it now holds 83 per cent. of the Sanitas Trust equity, London Merchant Securities, Ltd. (L.M.S.), says that, subject to the approval, it intends to transfer its 100 per cent. interest in Haddon Group and its 90 per cent holding in Westerham Press to Sanitas. The consideration will be met by the issue to L.M.S. of 3,203,000 Sanitas Ordinary shares and £2m. 8 per cent. convertible unsecured loan stock, 1992-95. Before carrying out these acquisitions, Sanitas proposes to increase and consolidate its capital by a capitalisation issue of three 1s. shares for every 2s. share currently held, the new 1s. shares to be immediately consolidated into 5s. shares. As a result of the deal L.M.S. will increase its interest in Sanitas equity to 87 per cent.

BUSINESS CHANGES

MR. J. DAVID THOMAS, M.P.S., has acquired the pharmacy of Mr. P. L. Woodhead, M.P.S., 40 High Street, Pelsall, Staffs, and is trading under his own name.

THE London office of Joseph Crossfield & Sons, Ltd., Warrington, Lanes, has removed to Avon House, 356 Oxford Street, W.1 (telephone: 01-493 6372). Mr. E. J. Hazell remains the office manager.

DAVID (CHEMISTS), LTD., are ceasing trading at 130 Brent Street, London, N.W.4, from March 22. New premises in Brent Street are not yet completed but communications to No. 130 will be dealt with until new address is advised. [Corrected note.]

J. S. BURT & PARTNERS (trading as Mount Pharmacy), have acquired the business of D. P. Prosser (Chemists), Ltd., Cambridge Road, Stansted, Essex. Messrs. Prosser have purchased the business of R. R. Wilton, Ltd., 8 Market Street, Padstow, Cornwall.

MR. D. S. ROBERTSON, M.P.S., has closed his business at 104 Shore Street, Gourrock, Renfrews, and has gone into partnership with Messrs. G. Davidson, M.P.S. and J. Strachan, M.P.S., trading as James Murdoch (Chemist), Ltd., at 35 Kempock Place and 38 Cardwell Road, Gourrock.

CHARRINGTON & CO., LTD., owners of the Chelsea Drugstore, Ltd., who opened a pharmaceutical business on the pattern of an American drug store (*C. & D.*, July 13, 1968, p. 39), are reported to be planning to open three similar stores in the near future. One may be opened in Central London, the other two "on the outskirts." Details, say the company, must come later.

GATEWAY SECURITIES, LTD., is the new title adopted by Trinity Securities, Ltd., the Bristol-based holding company which recently added a chain of retail chemists shops to its operations (see *C. & D.*, October 5, 1968, p. 327). The holding company name change follows formal approval for the group to obtain quotation on the London Stock Exchange, having come to market on the Midland Stock Exchange in 1967. Following the adoption of "Gateway" in the holding company title, the group has also created a main trading company known as Gateway Stores, Ltd., of which Mr. A. E. M. Harbottle is chairman, Mr. A. H. Marsden, vice-chairman, and Mr. D. H. Lamb, managing director.

APPOINTMENTS

Board

RADIOL CHEMICALS, LTD. — Mr. G. S. Souter, M.P.S., has been appointed to the board.

CALMIC, LTD. — Mr. R. C. Devereux, M.A., is to join the board on April 8. Mr. Devereux at present is deputy group production director, Wellcome Foundation, Ltd. (parent company of the Calmic Group), which he joined in 1953. In 1959 he was appointed chief engineer of the company. Shortly after joining the Calmic board

Mr. Devereux will be leaving for Australia where he will have overall responsibility for the entire interests of the group there.

Executives

SCOTT & BOWNE, LTD., have appointed Dr. D. O. Holland, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.I.C., their technical adviser and Mr. I. F. MacVicar their senior marketing executive, with special responsibilities for new product planning.

PARKE, DAVIS & CO., have appointed Mr. G. S. Wood, M.P.S., their home sales co-ordinator. Mr. Wood was previously a representative for the company in East London. Mr. D. Jeffrey has been appointed foreign operations co-ordinator.

Representatives

N.P.U. MARKETING, LTD., have appointed the following additional representatives: (for Northern areas) Messrs. J. A. Wildgoose, Timperley, Ches.; J. L. Brooks, Leeds; D. W. Johnson, Radcliffe, Lanes; W. G. Ellis, Salford; J. Vanham, Hull; N. Dargue, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; E. N. Davis, Hamilton, Lanarks; D. Bishop, Edinburgh; H. A. McIlveen, Belfast; (for Southern areas) Messrs. H. E. F. Hurley, Taunton; M. Edwards, Reading; R. J. Purser, Brighton; J. T. Daly, Crawley; C. Webster, Dunstable; C. D. Lewis, London, W.9; K. M. White, Runwell, Essex; R. J. Hill, Northampton; R. Bell, Newport, Mon; R. C. Phillips, Sudbury, Suffolk; B. D. Taviner, Shrewsbury.

PERSONALITIES

MR. H. G. MOSS, F.P.S., whose name appeared in the New Year Honours List (*C. & D.*, January 4, p. 7), was invested with the O.B.E. on March 11.

MR. J. S. LEY, M.P.S., D.P.A. (chief pharmacist, Southern General Hospital, Glasgow), is on a three-month visit to Nepal. At the invitation of the World Health Organisation he is advising the Nepal Government on the establishment of a pharmaceutical service. Later in the year he is visiting Afghanistan for a similar purpose. Mr. Ley was a member of the Grosset Committee, which investigated the Scottish hospital pharmaceutical service.

DEATHS

COULSON.—On March 17, Mr. G. N. Coulson, M.P.S., Elmsett, 8 High Street, Petersham, Cambs, aged fifty-eight. Mr. Coulson, who qualified in 1932, was the son of a pharmacist and a director, with his brother, Mr. H. B. Coulson (a member of the Executive Committee of the National Pharmacists' Union) was a director of Horace Coulson & Sons, Ltd., Cambridge, and the Superintendent of Coulson & Fisher (Shelford), Ltd., Great Shelford, Cambs. For a period during the 1939-45 war Mr. Coulson was a prisoner-of-war in Burma.

CUMMING.—On March 10, Mr. Herbert Duncan Cumming, M.P.S., 20 Brookland Avenue, Wells Green, Wistanton, Crewe, Ches., aged seventy-three. Mr. Cumming qualified in 1920

and was in business in Edleston Road, Crewe, for many years. His brother, Mr. Alex James Cumming, M.P.S., is in business at Victoria Street, Crewe. Their father, Mr. John Cumming, founded the business in 1895; it later became a limited company, with the two shops.

GRIFFITHS.—Suddenly, on March 11, Mr. Oswald Griffiths, M.P.S., D.B.A., 9 Norton Park Drive, Sheffield, 8, superintendent pharmacist of Brightside and Carbrooke Co-operative Chemists, Ltd. Mr. Griffiths qualified in 1933, joined the Co-operative movement in Coventry, and became superintendent pharmacist for the Kettering Society a few years later. He joined the Brightside and Carbrooke Society as superintendent in 1951 and was appointed to the Sheffield Pharmaceutical Committee in the same year. In 1959 he became committee vice-chairman and a member of the Sheffield Executive Council, and a member of the No. 1 Hospital Management Committee. Mr. Griffiths was active in the local branch of the Pharmaceutical Society and was its chairman in 1956. He represented Sheffield at several Branch Representatives meetings.

Mr. S. Durham writes:—"Due to his personal characteristics of integrity, courtesy, co-operation and his conscientious service, 'Griff' earned a place in the esteem and affections of his Sheffield colleagues that has caused his death to be a personal loss for each of them. He will be missed, but his influence will remain."

INGHAM.—On February 21, Mr. Arthur Ingham, M.P.S., Highwayside, 87 Oldfield Road, Altrincham, Ches. Mr. Ingham qualified in 1948.

JONES.—On March 1, Mr. Garawys Arwyn Jones, M.P.S., 83 Princes Gardens, London, W.3. Mr. Jones qualified in 1934.

MORRISON. — At Stobhill Hospital, Glasgow, on March 17, Mr. Ralph Seton Morrison, M.P.S., F.S.M.C., 22 Lime Grove, Lenzie, Glasgow. Mr. Morrison qualified in 1910.

PRICE.—On February 25, Mr. Arthur Reginald Price, M.P.S., 27 West Bank Avenue, Derby. Mr. Price qualified in 1915 and was a former territorial general manager of the Boots organisation in the Derby area.

THORNE.—On March 5, Mr. Ernest George Thorne, M.P.S., 86 Whitley Court Road, Quinton, Birmingham, 32. Mr. Thorne qualified in 1905.

WORBOYS. — On March 17, Sir Walter Worboys (chairman, British Printing Corporation) aged sixty-nine. After graduating at the University of Western Australia he obtained a D.Phil. in chemistry at Lincoln College, Oxford, in 1922. He joined a subsidiary company of Brunner Mond & Co. (one of the precursors of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd.). In 1942 became chairman of the plastics division of I.C.I., Ltd., and was appointed a director of I.C.I. Mr. Worboys was chairman of the Council of Industrial Design and of the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers in 1953.

NEW PRODUCTS AND PACKS

PHARMACEUTICAL SPECIALITIES

Now Also in Tablets. — Bayer Products, Co., Winthrop House, Surbiton, Surrey, are marketing their strong analgesic, Fortral (pentazocine) in bottles of 100 25-mg tablets in addition to the injectable product in 1-ml and 2-ml ampoules. Fortral is widely used in hospitals as an alternative to opiates. The preparation is not subject to D.D.A. regulations.

Hydrocortisone Enema.—Bengue & Co., Ltd., Mount Pleasant, Alperton, Wembley, Middlesex, have launched a new speciality Cortenema, which they describe as the first suspension of hydrocortisone available for use as a ready-to-use retention enema. Cortenema, designed for easier self-administration in ulcerative colitis, is presented as a one-piece disposable unit (a soft plastic bottle with lubricated nozzle). One squeeze of the hand instils the enema, and a non-return valve in the nozzle prevents its regurgitation. Each bottle contains a unit dose (60 ml) of suspension (equivalent to 100 mg hydrocortisone as alcohol).

Antihistamine in New Form.—From March 24 Piriton, which is described by the makers, Allen & Hanburys Ltd.,



Bethnal Green, London, E.2, as "the most widely prescribed antihistamine," is being issued in a new form. Each new Piriton Spandet contains 12 mg of Piriton (chlorpheniramine maleate) in a specially formulated tablet designed to give predictable and sustained relief from allergic symptoms for up to twelve hours. Released immediately from the yellow layer, its release continues gradually from the matrix in the white layer. Two Spandets daily can, therefore, it is claimed, provide continuous antihistamine therapy through the twenty-four hours. Packs are containers of twenty-five and 250.

For Use By Diabetics.—Obin tablets, marketed by Harvey Pharmaceuticals a department of Pfizer, Ltd., are being made available to the medical profession from March 24. Obin brand of metformin is a diguanide for use in combination with Diabinese brand of chlorpropamide and other oral sulphonylurea agents in certain cases of maturity-onset diabetes mellitus. Combination therapy with Obin is indicated specifically in the treatment of primary and secondary failures with oral sulphonylureas; in diabetic patients suffering from overweight; and to avoid the

recourse to insulin when an oral sulphonylurea alone has failed to maintain diabetic control. The initial adult dose is 500 mg twice or three times daily, increasing gradually over ten days to a maximum of 3 G daily. Usual maintenance dose is 1 to 1.5 G daily, though up to 3 G daily may be necessary in some circumstances. The product is presented as 500 mg white film-coated tablets, each coded "Pfizer Obin 500."

COSMETICS AND TOILETRIES

Solid Brilliantine.—Ambassador Toilet Preparations, Ltd., 3 Gt. James Street, London, W.C.1 have introduced in their Ambassador range a blue brilliantine gel in jar (8s. 9d.).

Make-up Trio.—Sell-in of three new Innovation clear make-up products by Coty (England), Ltd., Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex, is expected to be completed by the end of April. The products are transparent make-up (10s. 6d.); eyeliner (8s. 9d.) and eye-shadow (8s. 9d.).

New in the Series. — To celebrate this year's "Blue Grass time," Elizabeth Arden, Ltd., 25 Old Bond Street, London, W.1, are presenting two new products in the series. Blue Grass eau de parfum spray (32s. 6d.), in tall diamond-cut bottle, is stronger than Blue Grass flower mist. Blue Grass aerosol spray deodorant liquid (27s. 6d) is "ice cool" and presented in a pale blue frosted glass, oval-shaped aerosol bottle with ribbed back and blue cap.

Toner for the Brown-haired.—Hair-toner shampoos, newly launched by F. W. Hampshire & Co., Ltd., Sunnysdale, Derby, are four revolutionary new shampoo-in rinses (10d. per sachet) especially created to solve all colouring problems for brown-haired girls. Using Hairtoners is claimed "fun and simple." There are four varieties: Brown fire, brown rich, brown gold and brown soft: "four new ways to liven-up brown hair the natural way."

Now in Britain Too. — For over thirty-five years, Grossmith's white rose and cucumber soap has been a tremendous success abroad. Demand has been so great, in fact, from visitors to England that the makers, J. Grossmith & Son, Ltd., 41 Piccadilly, London, W.1V OLE, have decided to market the soap in this country. Messrs. Grossmith are one of the few manufacturers who still make their own soaps. Besides boasting a "clean, fresh, cool" perfume, white rose and cucumber soap is "of longlasting quality down to the last sliver."

Cream, Mask and Lotion.—Trio of new products from Lancome (England), Ltd., 14 Grosvenor Street, London, W.1, comprises a skin cream, mask and lotion. Creme No. 2 for regenerating and hydrating dry skin. More oily than Lancome's Abyssale, contains serum and sea-water extracts and is easily absorbed. In use, a little is massaged into the clean skin. Pack is a tube (48s. 6d.). Marine Alga mask No. 10 (48s. 6d.) is a translucent mask in which, say the makers, "you could even

answer the door." The mask is claimed ideal for dry and sensitive skin; it may be applied right up to the eyes and used as often as desired. Lotion No. 14 is a non-astringent lotion (35s. 9d.) for skin that lacks water and oil content; it is also claimed ideal for dehydrating skin marred by external seborrhoea. The lotion is applied on a clean face with either spray or fingertips and allowed to dry.

Suntan Products In Beach Range.—Coming further into the adult skin care and beauty product field, Maws Pharmacy Supplies, Ltd., Barnet, Herts,



have taken on the appointment by Jantzen, Inc., U.S.A., as international licensees for the manufacture and international distribution of suntan preparations bearing the Jantzen brand name, claimed for many years an international brand leader in products for the beach. Messrs. Maws have completed development for the new products in the range and are launching them in time for the 1969 summer holiday season. During the next few months they will also be introducing the products in the Channel Islands, Malta and several European countries, including France, Italy, Belgium and Holland. Next year's marketing plans provide for the extension of the range to Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. The products



NEW 6-OZ. CAN: Golden, Ltd., Berkeley Square, London, W.1, have introduced a new 6-oz. can of Dop hairspray, claimed the fastest-selling size on the market. It will be replacing the 8-oz. can and is in greasy, dry and normal formulas (each 5s. 8d.).

are presented in packs that are notably different in design from existing products in the field. Basic theme is a series of four-colour vertical stripes in warm yellow, orange, red and brown. The glass and plastic bottles, plastic tubes, aerosols and compacts are slim and of lightweight construction. The products have been formulated to encourage controlled tanning and to avoid sudden harsh burning or reddening of the skin. The range comprises eight products:—Suntan oil in 53-c.c. glass bottle (8s. 9d.) and 133-c.c. aerosol can (12s. 6d.); suntan lotion in 53-c.c. glass bottle (8s. 9d.); suntan soothing lotion in 110-c.c. plastic bottle (8s.); suntan soothing foam in 135-c.c. aerosol can (12s. 6d.); suntan oil pads in plastic compact of twenty (6s. 6d.); beach-stain remover pads in plastic compact of twenty (6s. 6d.); sun deflectant cream in 58-c.c. plastic tube (9s. 9d.). All are supplied in minimum quantities of six units, the aerosol in minimum quantities of three units.

SUNDRIES

1969 Hot-water bottle Range.—Columbia Products Co., Ltd., Sherbourne Avenue, Ryde, Isle of Wight,

draw attention to their 1969 range of hot-water bottles imported from Czechoslovakia. A full replacement guarantee accompanies each metal-stoppered bottle. Prices are "very competitive."

A new Concept in Elastic Bandage.—At present available to hospitals only, Coban elastic bandage by Medical Products 3M Co., 3M House, Wigmore Street, London W1A 1ET (tel.: 486 5522), is claimed easy to apply, requiring no clips. The bandage sticks to itself, allowing variable-pressure bandaging. It is light in weight, giving improved patient comfort, and is autoclavable. Coban is available in boxes of twelve 5-yd rolls in four widths (2, 3, 4 and 6 in).

In Modern Image for Younger Market.—Lilia-White (Sales), Ltd., Charford Mills, Birmingham, 11, have introduced new packaging for Dr. White's Koronet pads (1s. 9d. per doz.) and briefs (5s. 9d.). The new pack is in 150-gauge polythene in distinctive colour combination of blue, mauve and white, and the pads are tailored to fit into the pocket flaps of the plastic lining of the Koronet brief, which is made of two-way-stretch white nylon with velvet elastic.

TRADE NOTES

Product Name Change.—From March 10 the migraine product of G. W. Carrick Co., Ltd., 44 Highgate Street, London, N.6, previously identified as Midrin became known as Midrid.

An Additional Pack.—Dome Laboratories, division of Miles Laboratories, Ltd., Stoke Court, Stoke Poges, Slough, Bucks, announce that Nystaform-HC, 1 per cent. ointment is now available in a 30-g pack as well as the normal 15-g size.

Anti-coronary Advice.—"How Not to Get a Coronary" is the title of a new booklet in the British Medical Association's Family Doctor series (1s. 6d.). Written by Dr. A. L. Wingfield its advice is "moderation in all things." Available to members through the National Pharmaceutical Union, 321 Chase Road, London, N.14.

Size Doubled.—Fassett & Johnson, 96 De Beauvoir Road, London, N.1, distributors of John Bell, Hills & Lucas products, are replacing the present 14-g Lotil with a 28-g size (4s. 9d.). On recommendations from customers Lotil's claim for "cracked and sore fingertips" has been extended to read "for cracked and sore skin," giving added sales potential.

Diluent Named.—A. Wander, Ltd., King's Langley, Herts, WD4 8LJ, state that Triotussic suspension (Wander) is formulated to a 4-ml dose and that syrup B.P., should be used as diluent when dispensing. All Wander liquid preparations except Triotussic suspension are now formulated to a 5-ml dose. Triotussic is being reformulated to that dosage in due course.

Now in Dozens.—Gerber strained and "junior" baby foods are now being sent out by Brown & Polson, Ltd., Claygate House, Esher, Surrey, in case of 1 doz. units (instead of in packs

of twenty-four). Thus enabling retailers to stock the entire range at half the previous investment cost. Trade prices have been reduced on all terms up to 100 case rate. Best terms are now available on 100 cases of twelve.

Fractionated Coconut Oil.—Miglyol 812 neutral oil brand of fractionated coconut oil is now available from Thomas Marns & Co., Rustington, Sussex, who have been appointed distributors to hospitals, wholesalers, retailers and universities. Miglyol is described as almost colourless and odourless, with good keeping qualities. It remains liquid at temperatures below freezing point.

Advice on Hair Colouring.—Inecto hair colouring advice bureaux have

been set up by Rapidol, Ltd., at 32 Edmund Street, Birmingham, 67 London Road, Liverpool, 3, 30 New Cannon Street, Manchester, 1, and 27 Dover Street, London, W.1. Stockists may pass on to the bureaux customer's hair-colouring queries and problems. At each centre are hair testing and strand test departments.

Maintenance Costs Cut.—A new cleaning paper for industrial use offers considerable cost savings over rags and cotton waste. Introduced by D.S.O. Supplies, Ltd., 14 Lillian Road, London, S.W.13. It is named Paperag. The paper has a good wet absorbency and may be used in place of rags for removing grease, solvent, oil and water spillages or for cleaning work surfaces. Cross infection risks do not arise, since each piece of Paperag is used once and thrown away. It is available in 6,000 ft. rolls 10 in. wide, supplied in two-roll packs.

Bonus Offers

BAYER PRODUCTS Co., Surbiton, Surrey. Lenium twelve invoiced as ten on order for five boxes or more; twelve invoiced as eleven on order for two to four boxes.

H. J. HEINZ CO., LTD., Hayes Park, Hayes, Middlesex. Heinz strained creamed rice and creamed semolina puddings. Shilling off case. Till April 25. (Point-of-sale display material available.)

MAWS PHARMACY SUPPLIES, LTD., Aldersgate House, New Barnet, Herts. Jantzen swim-caps and sun-care products. Mixed parcel value 520s. at 7 per cent. discount; mixed parcel value 247s. 6d. at 5 per cent. discount (six parcels in all available.) Introductory offer.

Premium Offers

GILLETTE INDUSTRIES, LTD., Great West Road, Isleworth, Middlesex. Gillette brushless and lather tube shaving creams. Ninepence off recommended retail price (shown by yellow flashes situated on two sides and at both ends of tube cartons). Until May 31. Normal trade discounts maintained.

GOLDEN, LTD., Berkeley Square, London, W.1. Recital permanent hair colouring. Morphy-Richards Caresse Ensemble hair dryer at saving of £2 12s. 2d. Till April 4.

JOHNSON & JOHNSON, LTD., Slough, Bucks. Johnson's baby powder. Trial sachet of baby lotion free with purchase of large size. Until April 3.

Discontinued

DISTA PRODUCTS, LTD., Speke, Liverpool, 24. Phenoxymethylpenicillin mixture, B.N.F. (oil suspension), 62.5 mg per 5 ml. Bottle of 60 ml. With immediate effect.

HORLICKS PHARMACEUTICALS, LTD., Orchard Lea, Winkfield, Windsor, Berks. Becantyl and Rubriment cream.

A. WANDER, LTD., King's Langley, Herts, WD4 8LJ. Aminacyl calcium (calcium aminosalicylate B.P.) 1.5-g cachets. Aminacyl sodium (sodium aminosalicylate, B.P.) 1.5-g cachets continue available.

Competitions

MALLORY BATTERIES, LTD., Gatwick Road, Crawley, Sussex. Winner in company's £500 Bermuda holiday competition to boost sales to amateur photographer, was Mrs. Dot Cooper, South-west London. Stockist from whom her competition entry came was Westbury Cameras, Ltd., Westbury Parade, London, S.W.12.



SHOWING THE PRODUCT TO ADVANTAGE: Lilia-White (Sales), Ltd., Charford Mills, Birmingham, 8, are issuing their Golden Babe disposable nappies in the new pack shown. It is made from strong transparent film enabling the special features of the product (shaped for comfort and net covered) to be brought to the notice of the shopper at the point of purchase.



STICKY STUFF

WHAT NEXT IN SCHERER CAPSULES?

Chances are, you'll never guess. Look at these examples. Permanent adhesive for household fixtures and a break-in lubricant for automotive wheel cylinder parts. Two very different products with one big packaging benefit in common: Both come in exact pre-measured quantities made immediately available in Scherer gelatin capsules.

And it's the same with antibiotics, or dog shampoos, insect repellents, bath oils, mint flavouring, hair creams, perfume and nail polish. Or whatever. Almost anything can—and does—go into Scherer gelatin capsules. That's because Scherer Rotary Die capsulation in airtight gelatin packages gives added convenience and adaptability to almost any product.

Some manufacturers choose Scherer capsules because the hermetic seal protects against oxidation, contamination, loss of flavour; assures greater stability, long shelf life. Others choose Scherer capsules so that they can market their products in precise, measured units. Others for safety. Others because Scherer capsules are so attractive and convenient to use.



SLIPPERY STUFF

The basic point is this: A capsule is not necessarily a pill. Scherer capsulation is a modern packaging technique.

Perhaps it might help your product, give it a competitive sales edge. There's one way to find out. Write to Roy Collins below or—quicker still—give him a ring at Slough 21241. He'll be glad to tell you more about Scherer capsules. And let you into some of their big sales advantages, too. But don't waste any time. Go on, do it now. Slough 21241. Mr. Collins, please...



R.P.
Scherer Ltd

216/222 BATH ROAD,
SLOUGH, BUCKS.

How you buy your Polaroid sunglasses.



This year we've tried to make it even easier for you to order our sunglasses.

We've put together three packages, A, B and C.

Each package comes complete with display unit and selected best-selling sunglasses or clip-ons.

Here's what you get:

Package A contains 12 of our most popular models. Complete

with a new 6-unit display box.

The retail cost is £16.11.6, and at our suggested selling price you'll make a profit of £8.4.4.

Package B is a little grander. A 20-model rotating display stand is supplied free with 48 Polaroid sunglasses.

The retail cost is £72.18.8, and again at our suggested selling price you'll run up a profit of

Cumulative price changes

AMENDING C & D
QUARTERLY PRICE LIST
FOR MARCH 1969

HOLD ON TO THIS SUPPLEMENT!

It contains information
that will not be repeated

(Note: If you lose a sheet, please apply to the Publisher for a replacement.)

To know whether a product has changed in price since the current Quarterly Price List appeared, look at the index which follows. If the product is listed, turn to the page number indicated. If not, turn to the Q.P.L. itself for the price of the product.

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439 ERC=Ever Ready Co. (Gt. Britain)Ltd., 1255 High Road, London, N20. 01-446 1313.	Natural Wonder, 17
714 Koray=Koray, Ltd., 78 Long Lane, London, E.C.1. 01-606 7675.	Nembutal, 14
834 MWL=Meltonian Wren, Ltd., Oxgate Lane, London, N.W.2. 01-450 5311.	Neomin, 14, 24
957 Perl=J. L. Perl, Ltd., 8 Esterbrooke Street, London, S.W.1. 01-834 8843.	Nerrisa, 14
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1263 Upjohn=Upjohn, Ltd., Fleming Way, Crawley, Sussex. Crawley 31133.	Nirolex, 9
1372 Santilan=Santilan (London), Ltd., 20/ Bedford Chambers, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.	No-Paine, 4
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1536 RDP=Rational Diet Products, Gloucester, GL1 3QB. OGL2-21291.	Nystaform-HC, 24
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1548 JJ=Julian Jablon, 64 George Street, London, W.1. 01-935 2739.	Ocusol, 9
1555 PAPA=Pan-American Pharmaceutical Associates, Ltd., 3 Bucklersbury, London, E.C.4. 01-248 7082.	Ode, 9
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THIS WEEK'S CHANGES

Prices are given in the sequence Trade Price per Doz.; Purchase Tax per Doz.; Retail Price. Bold upright figures (2 9) in the retail price column indicate that the price is subject to resale price maintenance; italic figures (2 9) that it is recommended by the manufacturers; and light upright figures (2 9) that it is "notional" as a guide to the retailer in determining his own retail price.

A Adagio (1435 FS) (distributors 669 Sorelle)					
day fragrance	85	10	47	2	16 6
fragrant mist	111	6	61	4	21 0
perfume	85	10	47	2	16 6
skin perfume	157	4	86	6	29 6
talcum	85	10	47	2	16 6
	42	10	23	7	8 6
• Ambassador (1375 ATPL)					
brilliantine	45	0	24	9	8 9
Aminacyl (1303 Wander)					
calcium 1.5g cachets					
• Amylatin (126 Biocos)					
30g	4	8ea	—	—	6 6
60g	7	0ea	—	—	11 0
80g	9	0ea	—	—	15 0
Angel Face (256 CPL)					
Brush Alive	40	1	22	0½	6 6
face powder	14g	15	5	8 6	2 6
	21g	18	1	9 11	2 11
lipstick	27	9	15	3	4 6
Stayfast	15	5	8	6	2 6
mascara compact	7	3	4	0	1 2
• Biorogg (126 Biocos)					
	15	0ea	—	—	21 0
A Bronco (184 Bronco)					
toilet packs					
interleaved	38	6	—	—	—
(3 doz)	32	2	—	—	—
double	32	2	—	—	—
(1½ doz)	36	6	—	—	—
rolls	36	6	—	—	—
(3 doz)					
Celaton (126 Biocos)					
• buerlecithine 250cc	24	0ea	—	—	30 0
dragees	36	19	0ea	—	24 0
• CH ₃	60	18	6ea	7 6ea	32 0
	120	30	0ea	11 0ea	58 0
• PK7	23	0ea	—	—	30 0
A Cutex (256 CPL)					
basecoat	21	8	11	11	3 6
cuticle remover	23	2	12	9	3 9
cream	23	2	12	9	3 9
emery boards	15	6	8	6	2 6
nail hardener	48	10	26	10	7 11
nail polish clear	23	2	12	9	3 9
pearl	32	5	17	10	5 3
opaline frosted	41	7	22	10½	6 9
one coats	32	5	17	10	5 3
nail flex	23	2	12	9	3 9
strong nail	32	4	17	9½	5 3
D Dason (358 D & S) existing entry					

I Dason (358 D & S)					
conditioner (vet.)					
4oz	28	0	—	—	3 6
21b	168	0	—	—	21 0
shampoo (vet.)					
10oz	24	9	10	11	4 0
D Day's (358 D & S) existing entry					
I Day's (358 D & S)					
antiseptic hand					
cream	4oz	43	4	19	1 7 0
8oz	44	10	19	9	7 3
Black Drink	2½oz	76	3	33	7 12 4
Driffield oils	10oz	145	4	64	0 23 6
	20oz	467	0	205	6 75 6
etheric ammonia					
8oz	61	10	27	3	10 0
Red Drink	71b	27	4ea	12	0ea 53 0
	141b	52	1ea	22	11ea 101 0
	281b	98	0ea	43	1ea 190 0
white oils	10oz	76	3	33	7 12 4
	20oz	145	4	64	0 23 6

A = Price Advanced
R = Price Reduced
• = New entry
D = Delete
C = Correction
I = Insert

Dixcel (184 Bronco)					
A kitchen rolls single					
	32	0	—	—	—
(2 doz)	31	0	—	—	—
double	31	0	—	—	—
(1 doz)	72	0	5	6	—
with holder	22	0	(2 doz)	—	—
R tissues facial					
	150	38	10	—	—
(2 doz)	45	8	—	—	—
men's	28	6	—	—	—
(2 doz)	28	6	—	—	—
toilet rolls double	28	6	—	—	—
(1½ doz)					
D Ewelett (358 D & S) existing entry					
I Ewelett (358 D & S)					
	3oz	34	0	15	0 5 6
D Eweline (358 D & S) existing entry					
I Eweline (358 D & S)					
	3oz	18	7	8	2 3 0
• Felice (76 Atkinson)					
parfum de toilette					
138	6	76	2	23	6
parfum mist	167	11	92	4	28 6

	perfume	purse	79	6	43	9	13	6
		mignon	132	1	72	8	22	6
		demi-flacon	221	0	121	6	37	6
		talcum powder	51	6	28	4	8	9
		toilet soap (3)	64	6	23	8	10	0
	Fortral (97 Bayer) ts48							
●	tablets	100	33	2ea	—	—	—	—
A	Fresh Start (256 CPL)							
	cleansing gel	36	5	20	0	5	11	—
D	Glenrol (184 Bronco) existing entry							
I	Glenrol (184 Bronco)							
	toilet rolls	29	8	—	—	—	—	—
		(2 doz)						
D	Huskolein (358 D & S) existing entry							
I	Huskolein (358 D & S)							
		20oz	129	11	57	2	21	0
	Lancome (726 Lancome)							
●	creme No. 2	—	—	—	—	48	6	—
	lotion No. 14	—	—	—	—	35	9	—
	marine alga mask	—	—	—	—	48	6	—
R	Largactil (971 PSM8) ts48							
	syrup	11	22	0ea	—	33	0	—
		21	42	0ea	—	63	0	—
	tablets 10mg	500	19	0ea	—	28	6	—
	25mg	500	31	4ea	—	47	0	—
	50mg	500	60	0ea	—	90	0	—
	100mg	500	111	8ea	—	167	6	—
	Li-Lo (308 Cow)							
A	hot water bottles							
	Airflow double							
	heat	71	3	—	—	8	11	—
	standard	75	0	—	—	9	6	—
	Sheerline	77	6	—	—	9	9	—
	Super-velour							
	covered	167	6	—	—	21	0	—
	Apex	52	0	—	—	—	—	—
	Astra	58	0	—	—	—	—	—
	Balmoral	58	0	—	—	—	—	—
	De Luxe	64	0	—	—	—	—	—
	Diplomat	52	0	—	—	—	—	—
	Embassy	52	0	—	—	—	—	—
	Finest Quality	56	6	—	—	—	—	—
	Lancastrian	55	0	—	—	—	—	—
	Quiltaire	57	3	—	—	—	—	—
	Satmaire	58	0	—	—	—	—	—
	Universal	64	0	—	—	—	—	—
●	Lotil (451 F & J)							
		28g	30	6	11	3	4	9
D	old pack							
A	Mandelberg (1267 Vitalam)							
	hot water bottles							
	Candlewick							
	covered	116	0	—	—	12	11	—
	quilted satin	156	0	—	—	17	6	—
	velour	146	0	—	—	16	3	—
D	Maybelline (366 DR & A) existing entry							
I	Maybelline (366 DR & A)							
	eyebrow pencil	12	0	6	3	2	0	—
	automatic	51	0	26	8	8	6	—
	refill	25	6	13	4	4	3	—
	eyelash curler	87	0	45	6	14	6	—
	refill	22	6	11	9	3	11	—
	eyelashes natural							
	hair	144	0	75	3	24	0	—

	25mg	50	15	4ea	—	23	0
		500	138	4ea	—	207	6
	Sunbeam (1199 Sunbeam)						
R	shavers						
	International	G9	—	—	—	210	0
		G10	—	—	—	252	0
	Shavemaster		—	—	—	320	0
	Supersoft (563 Hampshire)						
•	Hairtoners shampoo						
	sachet		5	2½	2 10		10
A	Vaseline (256 CPL)						
	hairtonic	49g	23	2	12 9	3	9
		99g	36	5	20 0	5	11
	petroleum jelly						
	yellow	tin	7	0	2 7	1	0
		jar	12	3	4 6	1	9
		jar	22	9	8 4	3	3
	white	tin	8	3	3 0	1	2
		jar	14	0	5 1½	2	0
		jar	26	3	9 7½	3	9
		jar	48	4	17 9	6	11
		1lb	75	2	27 7	10	9
	nursery pack	8oz	48	4	17 9	6	11
	shampoo cream,						
	beauty, lemon,						
	medicated.						
	small bottle	14	2	5 2	2 1		
	soapless	15	3	5 7	9		
		(3 doz)		(3 doz)			
	Wasp-eze (992 P & C)						
D	(distributors 1545 Vestric)						
	Wilkinson (1339 Wilkinson)						
A	Super Sword Edge						
	blades	5	53	7	19 8	4	0
	Yardley (1355 Yardley)						
I	Pretty Goods						
	chalk sticks						
	singles	581	33	0	18 2	5	8
	composite pack						
		581/3	47	0	25 10	8	1
	eyebrow pencil						
		546	19	0	10 5	3	3
	eye liner cake	539	33	0	18 2	5	8
	liquid	586	39	0	21 5	6	8
	eyelighters	530	86	0	47 3	14	9
	face base	532	47	0	25 10	8	1
	face finish	533	46	0	25 3	7	11
	face kit brush	534	30	0	11 0	4	8
	finger-tip polish						
		536	26	0	14 3	4	6
	pearl	536/p	34	0	18 8	5	10
	lip tint	567	39	0	21 5	6	8
	luv lashes	537	146	0	80 3	25	0
	luv mist	547	53	0	29 2	9	1
	mascarade	580	47	0	25 10	8	1
	mini blusher &						
	brush	535	87	0	47 10	14	11
	nail polish-						
	shimmerine	538	38	0	20 11	6	6
	pearly creams	544	35	0	19 3	6	0

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Correspondence

Letters when received must bear the name and address of the sender, not necessarily for publication. The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the views expressed.

Terrors of the "Count Down"

SIR.—I do not know what is the equivalent in the pharmaceutical world of what, in Army slang, is "bull." But I have never read or heard such drivel as is used in connection with the plastic spoon in the twin-10 metrification. I have just read a leaflet about children's and adult medicine in which the dose is six 5 ml spoonfuls, etc., immediately followed by 3 x 5 ml spoonfuls, etc. With the spin drier giving its last whizz and the whistling kettle giving its last blast, one can imagine the harassed parent giving the "count down" in such circumstances. What she will require is a new plastic egg timer that gives the Greenwich time pips.

G. H. WRIGHT,
York

Veterinary Product Distribution

SIR.—The announcement by Messrs. Pfizer of the withdrawal of direct supplies of their veterinary products, and their confining main distribution in the United Kingdom to four non-pharmaceutical distributors, must have come as an unpleasant surprise to members of the agricultural and veterinary group of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. The policy is a direct contradiction of one being pursued by the Society, namely the channelling of veterinary "ethicals" through pharmacists and veterinary surgeons, and of the assurance given by Mr. Mars that Messrs. Pfizer are certainly not reducing their agricultural interests only emphasises the great difficulties facing our profession.

COLIN HALL,
Lanark

Corfield Memorial Trust

SIR.—The Corfield Memorial Trust was established in 1948 to perpetuate the memory of Charles Edwin Corfield by creating a memorial fund to provide books and/or other material for the encouragement of research in pharmaceutical chemistry. Charles Edwin Corfield had been for many years honorary general secretary of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, and the trust deed provides that, in making the awards, the trustees shall pay particular attention to the desirability of encouraging presentation of papers of high quality to the British Pharmaceutical Conference. The trustees have decided to offer this year one or more awards, up to a total of £100, to research workers in pharmaceutical chemistry. Preference will be given to research workers who are intending to offer papers on their work for presentation at an annual meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference. Application for an award should be addressed to Dr. G. R. Boyes, Corfield Memorial Trust, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.1. It should contain personal details of the applicant and particulars of the research being undertaken. Titles and prices of the

books required or the nature of other equipment that would be obtained with an award, should also be indicated by the applicant.

H. TREVES BROWN,
Pinner Hill, Middlesex

Protest

SIR.—For some time we have been selling Lanaleum shampoo at the original price of 3s. 6d. (probably the only such item not to have increased its retail price) and have borne without complaint the increases in purchase tax that have been passed on to us. In view of events this week I feel that the time has come to protest. From my latest Maw's invoice I find that the cost price of Hanx has been increased by 1s. 9d. per doz., yet the retail has gone up by only one penny. It is quite possible to buy the leading brand of men's tissues at 18s. doz. and even at the "cut" retail price of 2s. 3d. that still shows 50 per cent. on cost. With the increased overheads that we all have to bear, the ridiculous return on N.H.S., and the encroachment by outside traders, the loyalty of the pharmacist to N.P.U. lines is placed under great strain. It would be of interest to know from the N.P.U. the reason for the increase, and I suggest that, if the "new image" about to be launched by them is to be successful then prices and deliveries must be more realistic. Hitchin is but eighteen miles from Barnet, but deliveries can take up to three weeks! Such delays and margins are just not on.

E. J. COOPER,
Hitchin, Herts

Metrication of Obsolete Formulas

SIR.—By way of comment upon the letter from Mr. J. Savage (*C. & D.*, March 15, p. 240), I am sending you a copy of a statement we shall be publishing in the next issue of the *N.H.S. Newsletter*. J. WRIGHT, *Secretary*,
London, N.14

[The information given in the statement is that all the information given in *Newsletter* 2/69 issue under the various titles of obsolete National Formulary items was taken from the "Compendium of Past Formulae" which the National Pharmaceutical Union is shortly to publish, with the approval of the Department of Health, for the purposes of the National Health Service. Its contents, the statement points out should, with that approval, be regarded as official for all N.H.S. dispensing purposes. The "rounding off" of the metric equivalents of many of the ingredients in the old formulas (10 grains becoming 500 mg and 30 minims usually 2 ml) was done to match the way in which B.N.F., 1966, formulas had been converted in the B.N.F., 1968. Those equivalents, sometimes disagreeing with the conversion figures given in the new Statutory Instrument, were decided upon by the Joint Formulary Committee (its mem-

bership comprising representatives of the medical and pharmaceutical professions). "Despite the seemingly arbitrary nature of some of the new amounts, it will be seen that they are in terms of rational metric quantities and are thus little different in that respect from their apothecary predecessors." The separate origins of the two methods of conversion should be appreciated, the Statutory Instrument being concerned with providing legal equivalents for metric conversion of any prescription ingredient without reference back to the prescriber, the B.N.F. with providing formulas whose individual ingredients and doses have been agreed between doctors and pharmacists. The formulas have been examined by the Codex Revision Committee of the Pharmaceutical Society and approved by the Department of Health for National Health Service purposes.]

Right Way

SIR.—Mr. Starkler's solution (*C. & D.*, March 15, p. 240) to Mr. Osbourne's problem prescription does not appear to me to be the correct one. Referring to the original script; Phenegan elixir 10 oz., Largactil syrup 4 oz., Sol: chloral 1-3 2 oz., Sig $\frac{1}{2}$ fl. oz. nocte. Assuming thirty-two doses, the dose of each ingredient will be Phenegan elixir 150 minims, Largactil syrup 60 minims, Sol. chloral 1-3 30 minims. Referring to Table 2 the metric dose become:

Phenegan elixir	9 ml
Largactil syr.	3.5 ml
Sol. chloral	1.8 ml

Total 14.3 ml

Therefore diluent to 20 ml (4 x 5 ml doses). The script now becomes, for the equivalent thirty doses:—

Phenegan elixir	270 ml
Largactil syr.	105 ml
Sol. chloral (1 in 3)	54 ml
diluent to 600 ml	

Sig 4 x 5 ml doses at night.

Mr. Starkler's solution provides doses of about 75 per cent. of the original.

P. RUSSELL,
Hornchurch, Essex

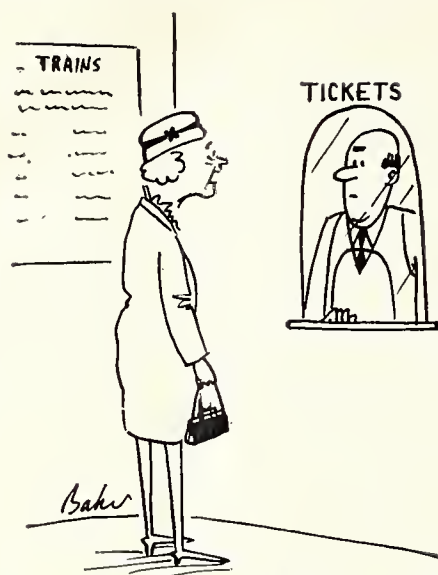
[We think you are right. In view, however, of the combined dosage of sedatives we would suggest that the prescriber should be contacted to be sure that he is aware of the amount of active ingredients being dispensed.—EDITOR.]

Theft Under the New Act?

SIR.—On reading my *C. & D.* this morning about the New Theft Act, 1968, I thought the events that happened this week in my photographic chemist shop (I avoid the word "pharmacy") might be of interest to other photographic chemists. We run an 8-mm. film library, and, apart from the odd defaulter, it runs reasonably well. Two Christmases ago we lost four films to one address, and when we called they did not know us, did not have an 8-mm. projector, and we lost the films. In Christmas 1968 a blitz seems to have hit us. On checking, we found we were seventeen films short, apart from the fact that one customer

hired a super-8 film and ran it on a standard-8 projector (or a dual, and forgot to change gear) and chewed it to pieces. One lady admitted losing four films on a bus, and said if we let her know and sent her a bill she would pay. Unfortunately her name and address were proved to be false, so we were that much short. When we came to check the other names and addresses, we found that they were either fictional or each one accused the person next door, and nobody wanted to know anything. The point I am trying to make clear is that up till now these have not been indictable offences. We could only sue through the civil courts, and the police could take no action. I wonder if this new Act clears the position. Fortunately it is not necessary in the present case as on Thursday morning at 8.45 a man 'phoned, telling me he had been an 8-mm. enthusiast for years, had sold his projector, and had a few films for disposal, was I interested? Being a keen businessman I said "Yes, of course, bring them along." About 11 o'clock a young man arrived with a note from the bloke who could not come himself (sounds familiar) with a bag full of films and spare reels. I put them out on the table to check them, and there seemed a familiar title scratched on a tin. I called two of my girls and they said without a doubt, "That's our tin." She had scratched 103 on the tin and, though the label had been removed and a different film substituted, it was the number of one of the films that had been left on the bus. I asked the fellow to call back as I would like to run through one or two to see what they were like. He readily acquiesced, and I 'phoned the police. They were not terribly impressed, as I had not taken the name and address of the youth, the impression being that they dealt with criminals not obscure facts. If this man came back, I was to call them by all means. I omitted to mention he refused to give the other man's address or his own. About 2 o'clock, in the lunch hour (one girl only, of course) he came back. Of course he was in a tearing hurry and could not wait a minute. I had briefed the girl, who went upstairs and 'phoned the police, I did everything I could to delay him but in the end I had to tell him the truth, and wouldn't it be nicer if he co-operated with the police. He was not very keen, but the problem was solved by the police walking in. "Hello John," said the C.I.D. man, "so we meet again." "Yeh," says he, "and you ain't going to pinch me for no nicking this time." "Oh aren't we," was the reply, "let's see what this is all about." Then followed about an hour's questioning and a display of criminal jargon and six (not four) letter words that will make "Z Cars" and "Softly, Softly" very tame in future, and would fill the whole of the *C. & D.* (not just one page). When we had the matter reasonably straightened out the C.I.D. man said "Well John, come along to the station for a few hours, and we will have a nice cosy chat." And this, up to date, is the last we have seen and heard.

H. G. A. CRIPPS,
Hitchin, Herts



"Is this where I get my season ticket for prescriptions?"

N.P.U. Policy

SIR,—I have read with sincere interest Mr. J. Williams' letter (*C. & D.*, March 15, p. 242) letter to Mr. J. Wright (secretary of the National Pharmaceutical Union.) Will Mr. Williams tell us what duties he has in his pharmacy that could not be satisfactorily carried out by a person who had pharmaceutical tuition in a night school? Mr. Williams is endeavouring to point out that pharmacists are professional men and not shopkeepers. It appears to me that the Pharmaceutical Society have continued to make the examination to qualify more difficult than ever whilst the conduct of a pharmacy where there is a fair proportion of dispensing is easier than ever. It appears that doctors have lost the art of prescribing and the vast majority of prescriptions received are for "ethical" products and all the dispenser has to do is to be able to measure and count. I agree that doctors' writing is not always readable but it should not take a professional man to study the art of reading these prescriptions. In my opinion the advice offered by the N.P.U. is excellent and the multiple firms and the supermarkets could be stopped in their tracks by pharmacists' co-operating. I have already written that chemists should co-operate and invest together in a first-class site on a main road of each town, where they should have special dispensing facilities, remain open until late at night (which they could do with the services of more than one pharmacist) and sell everything it is possible to sell in a chemist shop and make some real profit. It will be known that Boots changed their name in order to be able to diversify their trade, and when one reads that they have branches taking over £1 million per annum with an indifferent staff apart from the pharmacist, it makes one realise the absurdity of the advice Mr. Williams is endeavouring to offer to Mr. Wright. I do not agree with all the N.P.U. say or do but nevertheless they have their sights cocked correctly and, with a little professional advice which would no doubt be forthcoming from people, not necessarily pharma-

cists, the pharmaceutical profession would not only remain an honourable one but would become a very profitable one. We all know the way business has gone over the past thirty years, and it has developed into prizes for winners only. Pharmacists should not be frightened by the multiple firms and supermarkets, but should fight back together for they have everything at their command . . . money, ability and numbers. It is a great pity that several pharmacists, like Mr. Williams, overvalue their service to the public, because no longer do they prescribe, nor do they compound medicaments. In my opinion, sooner or later there will be a "B" qualifying certificate that will qualify members to do dispensing which in any language is a very easy practice in this modern age, as will be known by all practising pharmacists who will not be led up the garden to feel they are supermen. A qualified chemist is greatly respected by the public and this respect could be used in his favour by running diversifying pharmacies to deal with dispensing and counter trade.

S. V. BROWN, F.C.V.A., M.R.S.H.,
R.V.A., F.Inst. P.L.A.,
London, W.1

SIR,—At last someone has said it. We who went to the Albert Hall went there because we felt (or should I say some four-fifths of us felt) that commercialism had gone far enough. That the motion there passed could not be made to stand up in a court of law is beside the point, the intention was there and it still stands. Mr. Williams then proceeds to send a young gale of common sense right through so much of what is spoken of as being "traditional to pharmacy," which it is not, and never was. It formed part of the business of the chemist and druggist—or as Mr. Williams neatly puts it—"helping the chemist to maintain his rôle as shopkeeper." Shopkeepers we all are, but unless something better is in prospect, we train people for a non-existent job.

J. T. MARRIOTT,
Hemel Hempstead, Herts

Xrayser is Right

SIR,—Having just returned from a two-week golfing "package" holiday in the Costa del Sol, Spain, I was interested to read Xrayser's comments in the *C. & D.* on the first instalment of my contribution "Limelight on the Locum." Xrayser is quite right in stating that any system of arranging stock in the dispensary requires continuous adjustment nowadays, and I readily concur that a combination of alphabetical order, an index, and the grouping of larger items by manufacturers is the best. Even then, a knowledgeable shopgirl is an asset in effecting an occasional rescue. I was never left to attend to a cat but once had, as dispensary companions, two highly nervous dogs in a basket. I could not persuade them to become friends and conducted my forays in their direction with extreme care. The proprietor usually exercised them twice daily. Fortunately, a member of the family relieved me of that attempted duty.

WYKAM



CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

For Retailer, Wholesaler and Manufacturer

ESTABLISHED 1859

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TELEPHONE: 01-353 6565

Greater profit through greater safety

OVER the whole field of industry the view is widely held that Britain has little to learn from the United States about the avoidance of accidents to workpeople. Since, in the safety league table of British industries the chemical industry stands at a respectably high level, it might seem profitless to send a team to America to study safety methods in the U.S. chemical industry. However, it so happens that in industrial safety measures the American chemical industry stands out as a shining light, and a trio of members of the British Chemical Industry Safety Committee who went on a mission to see how the chemical manufacturers of America achieved such heights came away well satisfied (see p. 250) that British companies could benefit themselves as well as their workers by taking a few leaves out of the American book. Their recommendations are reinforced by the evidence that certain British subsidiaries of American chemical companies have, in applying the American methods, been achieving better-than-average safety records within the totality of chemical-manufacturing companies in Britain.

What impressed the British team particularly was the professionalism, keenness and profitability-orientated approach of the best American companies, which infected also their British subsidiaries, and it is those aspects the B.C.I.S.C. is most anxious that British companies should take notice of and take appropriate action upon. They believe it will then be shown in Britain as in America that the companies with the best safety records will prove to be identical with those that are the leaders in profitability also. A first step in that direction is to study the detailed findings in the report "Safe and Sound" which is briefly reviewed in this issue.

Assignment of a Debt

IN situations in which a creditor assigns to a third person (the assignee) a debt owed to him by his debtor, the assignee cannot sue the debtor to recover the amount of the debt, unless he first serves the debtor with a valid notice of assignment.

That is the statutory requirement under Section 136 of the Law of Property Act, 1925. Notice of assignment must be given to the debtor, and such notice must be in writing.

There are, however, technicalities as to the drafting of the notice itself; no requirements as to its form, but its substance is important. The notice may be contained

in a letter, but however it is given it must, according to the ruling in the case of *Denney Gasquest & Metcalfe v Conklin*, 1913 3 K.B.177, bring to the debtor's notice with reasonable certainty the existence of a document confirming that the creditor has assigned the debt due from the debtor. Purpose of that requirement is to bind the debt in the debtor's hands, and to prevent him from paying it to the original creditor. It might be imagined, therefore, that nothing could really go wrong. The utmost care must nevertheless be exercised in avoiding any *material* misstatements in the notice of the assignment given to the debtor.

Thus a notice that gave the wrong date of the document by which the debt was assigned would be invalid, and the assignee would be unable to sue the debtor to recover the amount of debt. That principle, though it still stands, has been considerably modified as the result of a recent decision of the Court of Appeal (in *Van Lynn Developments, Ltd. v Pelias (formerly Jason) Construction Co., Ltd.*). The decision itself may cause some surprise, since it had been held that the omission to state in the notice given to the debtor, any date at all as the date of the assignment, and even a misstatement in it that notice of assignment had been given when in fact that was not done, did not invalidate the notice, provided of course that the notice clearly stated to the debtor that his debt had been assigned, and identified the person who was the assignee and the person to whom the debt was now to be paid.

The debt in the case named was assigned on June 26, and on the following day a letter was written to the debtor by the solicitors of the assignee in the following terms:—

We have been instructed by our clients to apply to you for the payment of £5,296 outstanding to them following the assignment of the debt to them by the . . . Bank. *Notice of this assignment has already been given to you.*

The words in italics contained the misstatements, but they were nevertheless considered by the Court to be in the nature of "inaccurate surplusage." As the notice, in the opinion of the Court, satisfied the tests already referred to, it was not invalidated by the omission to state the date of the notice of the assignment. On the other hand, according to the authorities, had the notice misstated the dates of the assignment itself, it would have been invalid.

Altogether the situation is one that should be noted by those who purchase a business and the debts of the vendor.

A PHARMACIST'S ANTHOLOGY

GLOWING TESTIMONIALS

From "Cider with Rosie" by Laurie Lee

SHE was once paid five shillings for such a tribute, which she had addressed to a skin-food firm. From then on she bombarded the market with letters, dashing off several each week. Ecstatically phrased and boasting miraculous cures, they elegantly hinted at new dawns opened up because of, or salvations due only to: headache powders . . . bust-improvers . . . eyelash growers . . . corn-plasters . . . Such was her style, her passion and conviction, that the letters were often printed. She had bundles of clippings lying all over the house, headed "Grateful sufferer" or "After years of Torture" or "I Used to Groan Myself to Sleep till I stumbled on your Ointment." She used to read them aloud with a flush of pride.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland

MONTHLY MEETING OF COUNCIL

THE possibility that the Minister for Health might remove a pharmacist's name from the Register came up for mention at the monthly meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland in Dublin on March 11. It was there decided to adopt a recommendation from the Law Committee to refer to the Minister a report concerning a pharmacist who had sold controlled preparations without prescriptions. The recommendation stemmed from investigations initiated as a result of a complaint made by a medical association.

That report was the most depressing he had heard for a long time, commented MR. MICHAEL COSTELLO, and that a pharmacist should behave so at a time when the Regulations had been tightened was a sad reflection. Restrictions were imposed on pharmacists to ensure that drugs could not be procured without a prescription, and it would be a serious matter if pharmacists were found transgressing those Regulations.

The president (MR. T. R. MILLER) said that no pharmacist of integrity should have any hesitation in abiding by the Regulations. Apart from the present complaint there were, unfortunately, indications that other pharmacists were "sailing close to the wind." If the law was to be administered as it should be, the Society would have to be firm. Drugs were now big news and there had been cases of persons breaking into dispensaries to steal them.

MR. M. F. WALSH said that, in a way, the discovery that pharmacists had transgressed the Regulations might be a good thing, because it would show the Minister that the Council was serious about what they were doing. MR. M. L. CASHMAN thought the Council should set up a committee to examine the question of pharmacists' deliberately contravening the Regulations, with a view to reporting the matter to the Minister as a last resort. The committee would act as a deterrent to would-be offenders.

Prescription Problem

MISS LAURA CUNNIFFE wondered what could be done in the case of patients who presented prescriptions for more than one preparation, saying that not all the items were required as they could be obtained without a prescription in other areas? MR. MAURICE POWER said that, by strictly enforcing the law, the Council would be helping pharmacists who abided by the Regulations.

MR. V. G. MCELWEE told how he had lost the custom of a patient by refusing to supply a preparation that had been recommended for her child but which needed a medical prescription.

MR. R. J. SEMPLE thought the solution lay at local level by bringing the local pharmacist and doctor together.

"The days of wielding the big stick are gone," said the PRESIDENT. "It is too serious a situation. He knew that pharmacists who observed the Regulations and refused to supply controlled preparations without a prescription were being told by patients that they could get those preparations elsewhere without trouble. That was a tragic position for pharmacy."

MR. CASHMAN proposed that, in future, complaints of breaches of the Control of Sales Regulations reported by the Law Committee should be referred to a special committee, with a view to having the names of the transgressors forwarded to the Minister for the purpose of having them withdrawn from the Register, if necessary.

MR. SEMPLE said that, as the Regulations were at present being administered, the Council appeared to be prejudiced against its own members.

THE PRESIDENT agreed with Mr. Cashman's proposal and MR. WALSH said he would be prepared to go along

with it, provided the Council had power to restore members to the Register.

The Registrar (MR. J. G. COLEMAN) said the Council had power to restore the name of a person who had been struck off the Register. MR. M. POWER said it would be invidious to have members appointed to the proposed committee.

It was decided to give further consideration to the establishment of such a committee at an early date.

Assistants' Duties

The question of Pharmaceutical Assistants taking charge of pharmacies while pharmacists were on holiday was raised by THE PRESIDENT, who reminded members that they should be careful to ensure that they were adequately covered during their absences. He understood that a number of Assistants, having spent the winter months in city pharmacies, were leaving to take up "locum duty" during the holidays. MR. J. P. O'DONNELL agreed that the practice of Assistants covering shop and doing locum duty was common. When MR. MCELWEE said that, but for Assistants, the average rural pharmacist would not be able to get any holidays, THE PRESIDENT asked "Why can't they employ them all the year round?"

MR. R. J. POWER said the legal opinion which they had obtained was that it was up to the Council to define what they considered the functions of an Assistant. If anybody took a different view it could be tested in the courts.

MR. D. J. KENNELLY said a number of married women (who might not have paid their retention fees) were lending their names to the coverage of pharmacies. In doing so they were legally responsible for the manner in which such pharmacies were conducted, and they should be made aware of that fact.

Arising out of the minutes, MR. T. B. O'SULLIVAN reported that he had visited Prices' Pharmacy, Ltd., Dublin, to see if the basement would be suitable as a temporary museum, but had concluded that it would not. However, he understood that a room in the new pharmacy club might be available. That would be more central and, on the whole, might be more suitable. The Council expressed thanks to the proprietors of the pharmacy for having offered them the basement and it was decided to investigate the possibility of establishing a museum in the pharmacy club.

MR. O'DONNELL said that an F.I.P. steering committee would be considering the introduction of a section dealing with the practice of pharmacy. Hitherto the Federation had dealt with industrial and hospital pharmacy. A final decision would be taken the following year. In former years the matters discussed had been more relevant to Continental pharmacy, but now that the practice of pharmacy was likely to be discussed he thought they would be able to contribute and benefit from the discussions. The question of sending a delegate would be discussed at a later meeting of the Council.

In reply to MR. WALSH, who asked if there had been any further developments in discussions with the committee of the Irish Drug Association on the future of the Irish Pharmaceutical Association, THE PRESIDENT said there was nothing further to report. The I.D.A. would be contacting the Council's delegation after they had considered the matters discussed at the last meeting.

Approach to Minister

After a letter had been read from the Department of Health defining the functions of the new Hospitals Joint Service Board, it was decided to write to the Minister

asking him to consider appointing to the Board a pharmacist, because in the opinion of the Council, a pharmacist member would have useful information and advice to offer. The letter explained that the functions of the Board included organising, administering and providing a service for the supply of sterile requisites to institutions, members of the medical and dental professions, nurses and "to such other persons as may be approved of by the Board." Another function would be to undertake the preparation, processing, sterilisation and distribution of such requisites.

MR. R. J. POWER said that the Council should request the appointment of a pharmacist to the Board. He assumed one of its functions would be to organise, on a country-wide basis, the distribution of sterile materials from a central sterile bureau. MR. KENNELLY said that in other countries pharmacists were looked on as experts on sterilisation. Technically a pharmacist would have much to offer the Board. MR. COSTELLO said that, in one 3,500-bed hospital in Stockholm, nine pharmacists were in charge of sterilisation. MR. KENNELLY told how recently, with Professor Timoney, he had met hospital pharmacists from Northern Ireland. In all, seventeen such pharmacists were employed in the North, and all were engaged in some degree on the work of sterilisation. THE PRESIDENT agreed that the Council should request the appointment of a pharmacist to the Board.

Reporting that Dr. J. N. O'Donnell's pharmacy in Amiens Street, Dublin, had closed down, THE REGISTRAR said that the proprietor's daughter, Dr. Nuala O'Donnell, had bequeathed a quantity of drugs for use in the College of Pharmacy. The Council expressed its gratitude to Dr. O'Donnell for "this very valuable gift."

Postgraduate Courses

THE PRESIDENT reported on a meeting on February 28 with members of the college staff in connection with proposals for postgraduate courses in specialised subjects for pre-degree licentiates. It had been envisaged that the course would take a full academic year and would require real effort from those taking part. Candidates would be examined by an external examiner as well as by an Irish one, and the successful candidates would be presented with a certificate. The academic staff felt that the course would require to be a worth-while effort, designed primarily for pharmacists who had qualified in the past fifteen years. The course would centre round pharmacology.

MR. O'Donnell, while agreeing that the only practical place in which the course could be held was the College of Pharmacy, regretted that a number of provincial pharmacists would be unable to take part. He hoped the lectures could be taped for presentation at provincial centres later.

MISS CUNNIFFE suggested holding courses in Cork and Galway universities. The professors in those establishments would, she thought, be prepared to undertake the lectures if the syllabus were made available by Professor Cannon.

MR. WALSH explained that the course would be separate from the courses which the Postgraduate Education Committee had in mind for pharmacists in general.

THE PRESIDENT said that the course would not be by correspondence, and those availing themselves of it would have to work hard to succeed. The academic staff were adamant on that. The postgraduate courses organised by Mr. Boyd would deal with the metric system and other aspects of postgraduate education and would be a separate project altogether. The reason pharmacology had been chosen for the Dublin course was that, in a recent questionnaire, pharmacists had opted it by 31 to one. The certificate would be presented by the Society but the course would be operated by the Postgraduate Education Committee.

MR. R. J. POWER said that the certificate would be of much benefit to those seeking appointments as hospital

pharmacists or medical representatives. It was intended to ask local authorities to afford all reasonable leave to pharmacists wishing to take the course. MR. O'DONNELL said they would need to ensure that only pharmacists would be allowed to take the course if it were undertaken in University College, Cork or University College, Galway.

MR. CASHMAN reported on the latest negotiations with Department officials on the proposed new health service, and said that, all being well, it was hoped to arrive at a final solution in about two months' time. MR. O'DONNELL complimented Mr. Cashman on his comprehensive review of the negotiations.

THE REGISTRAR reported that the Practice of Pharmacy Committee was prepared to participate in a forthcoming exhibition in Killarney organised by the Irish Medical Exhibitors' Association, in conjunction with the Irish Medical Association, and recommended that their stand should deal with forensic problems, especially in relation to prescriptions. The Committee also recommended that wholesale houses should be requested to stock supplies of metric spoons to help pharmacists in preparing prescriptions for visitors during the coming holiday season.

Discussions with Students

It was agreed to meet a delegation of students to discuss certain matters in relation to pharmaceutical education.

Mrs. Mary T. Devereux (née Boyle) L.P.S.I. and Mrs. Mary Fitzgerald (née Donovan), Assistant, having submitted marriage certificates were granted change of name in the Registers.

The application of Dr. Thomas P. Smyth, L.P.S.I., for restoration to the Register was granted.

Nominated for membership were Peter A. O'Connor, L.P.S.I., 20 Elgin Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin, 4, and Brian J. Owen, L.P.S.I., 82 Willow Park Grove, Ballymun, Dublin, 11.

The registrar reported the deaths of Edmund P. Murphy, M.P.S.I.; Daniel J. Nolan, L.P.S.I.; Gerard M. O'Neill, M.P.S.I.; Kathleen White, L.P.S.I. and Alexander Young, L.P.S.I.

The following changes of address were noted:—Mrs. Gabrielle C. Curran, L.P.S.I. to 4 Circular Road, Kilkenny; Mrs. Nora J. Liston, L.P.S.I. to Munster and Leinster Bank House, Millstreet, co. Cork; Miss Eileen MacMahon, M.P.S.I. to The Manor, Tralee, co. Kerry; Mr. L. Keenan, L.P.S.I. to 18 Dun Emer Drive, Sandyford Road, Dundrum, co. Dublin; Mr. D. M. Lynch, L.P.S.I. to Health Centre, Finglas, Dublin, 11; Mr. F. J. O'Donnell, M.P.S.I. to Lansdowne, Mountrath Road, Portlaoise; Mr. Arthur W. Pitt, M.P.S.I. to c/o Henry Bell, Ltd., Exchange Street, Waterford.

The following were elected to membership:—Abina McSweeney, Chetwynd, Togher, co. Cork; Nora M. O'Connell, 310 Harolds Cross Road, Dublin, 5; Mary E. Power, 418 Howth Road, Raheny, Dublin, 5; Julia Walsh, San Giovanni, 12 Renmore Park, Galway; James G. Brosnan, 19 Henry Street, Kenmare co. Kerry; James J. Coffrey, Spring Haven, Springhill, Killiney, co. Dublin; Richard F. Cusack, St. Joseph's, Brighton Road, Foxrock, co. Dublin; Thomas Kelly, Robinstown, Navan, co. Meath; Michael J. O'Connell, Castle Gardens, Kilkenny.

As the next meeting of the Council was due on April 8—the day after Easter Monday—it was resolved, on the motion of MR. O'NEILL, seconded by MR. McELWEE, to defer it until April 15, to facilitate the attendance of provincial members.

Members present were: Miss L. Cunniffe; Messrs. P. M. Browne; M. L. Cashman; H. P. Corrigan; M. Costello; D. J. Kennelly; V. G. McElwee; J. B. Murphy; J. P. O'Donnell; J. W. O'Farrell; G. C. O'Neill; T. B. O'Sullivan; M. Power; R. J. Power; R. J. Semple and M. F. Walsh.

At a meeting of the Benevolent Fund, which followed, the thanks of the Committee were expressed to Cork City and County Chemists' Association for their generous donation of £210 to the Fund, representing the proceeds of their recent annual dinner and dance. The registrar reported that the Society had won £100 in the recent prize bond draw. The Society had had ten shares in the draw for the past twelve years. A number of grants were agreed and passed for payment.

Pharmacists' Status and Prestige

PANEL AT CHESTER MEETING PROBES FOUR ASPECTS

UNIQUE feature of a regional meeting of Pharmaceutical Society in Chester on March 16 was the spectacle of Council members on the platform being flatly contradicted by Council colleagues in the body of the meeting or even by their next-door neighbours on the platform. Did such liveliness precede the recurrent "minutes were approved and recommendation adopted" of Council-meeting reports? What had happened to the principle that Council members expounded only collective decisions, once they had been taken?

Truth to tell, though the meeting had attracted an audience of 160 on a chilly grey Sunday, the exchanges were the liveliest part of the discussion, which otherwise only came to life on small issues strongly affecting individuals. That was perhaps because the four papers presented, excellently prepared for the most part, seemed calculated to allay rather than to excite criticism.

"Vital Element, not Abstract Notion"

The proceedings began at 10.45 when the president (MR. ALBERT HOWELLS), perhaps triumphantly as a Welshman, said there was no better setting for such a meeting than Chester, with its castle built to keep out the Welsh. Purpose of regional meetings, now a permanent feature of the Society's year, was to explain some of the Council policies and activities, but no less to get a true reflection of the views of the membership for whom its business was to speak and act. The president introduced the subject of rural dispensing. He spoke of the "widespread indignation that is felt in pharmacy today about the limpet-like proclivities of a large number of rural doctors who cling to their dispensing practices with such tenacity that even the Government shrinks from attempting to prise them off." The Council of Society, Mr. Howells promised, would never acquiesce in a situation that was depriving whole communities of the comprehensive service in medicines that was available in the pharmacy and nowhere else. "Certainly it is not to be found in the ante-room to a doctor's surgery."

In August 1967 the then Minister of Health had said that "in principle, patients' interests generally would be better served if their dispensing was done by a competent and well stocked pharmacist rather than by an overworked doctor." In recent months lack of positive government had caused the pharmaceutical profession to suffer intolerable encroachment by members of the medical profession. "Their campaign to preserve what they wrongly call their right to dispense medicines has been one of the most vociferous campaigns to be launched by any professional group. In essence it is a demand to subsidise the doctor and his unqualified dispenser." Within the past few days, concluded Mr. Howells, the Council had restated to the Ministry

the Society's grave concern at the lack of any decision on the matter. That the Ministry should regard the matter as an inter-professional quarrel was naive. At its root was the public interest.

First of the four programmed speakers was MRS. ESTELLE LEIGH, her subject "Future Rôle of the Hospital Pharmacist."

Hospital pharmacists had often said the Society was unaware and unconcerned about their welfare, but Mrs. Leigh's view was that, in the past, the Society had not made public the work it was doing on behalf of hospital pharmacists.

The Council's hospital practices sub-committee, set up in 1964, was composed of six members of Council, two with experience in hospital pharmacy, of whom one was the chairman, Mr. Myers, and two were members of Hospital Management Committees. Ten co-opted members all of whom practised in hospital, were invited as individuals but one was the present president of the Guild of Public Pharmacists. That in itself ensured liaison between Guild and Council. For many years hospital pharmacists had been caught in a vicious circle. Low salary and poor conditions had led to an acute shortage of staff; too few pharmacists remained in the service, mainly because of the lack of career prospects. So inexperienced pharmacists had had to be appointed to senior posts and the service provided had had to be curtailed.

Hospital Service Inquiries

A number of semi-official inquiries into parts of the service (the Linstead, Grosset and Aitken reports) had been published. The Zuckerman and Noel Hall reports would certainly command the attention of the Department of Health and Social Security. The Council had been consulted on a tentative proposal that there should be a unified hospital scientific and technical service. The reply sent had stated that the society was not opposed to inclusion of the hospital pharmaceutical service in a unified hospital scientific service, subject to conditions.

When the report of the Zuckerman Committee was published in August 1968, the Council had been pleased to see in it acceptance that scientists, whether medically qualified or not, should be considered on their merits in their respective fields, and establishment of the service should not only remove obstacles to career prospects of non-medical scientists but should also improve the recruitment of staff of the requisite calibre; that the professions within a unified service need not lose their identity; and that pharmacists and pharmacy technicians might, after discussion with the profession, be considered appropriate for inclusion. The report had also stated that "there would seem to be a need for graduates (medical and non-medical) specialising in drugs and their effects in order to ad-

vise clinicians." To Mrs. Leigh graduates for that duty were certainly pharmacists.

The Noel Hall working party had been set up in 1968, before the Zuckerman Committee had received all its evidence. The Council considered the investigation to be of vital importance to the future of the hospital pharmacist and the whole profession. Many hours were spent by a small Working Party of the Society and by the whole of the Hospital Practice Subcommittee, before the document of written evidence was finally approved for submission to the working party. Oral evidence to be given on April 9 would give the opportunity of expanding upon the written statements.

The view was that the pharmacist must be seen as a responsible person who had also a special contribution to make in the medical care team. The Council's view was that the unit of organisation should be large enough to be comprehensive, including manufacturing and quality-control sections. A clearly defined administrative structure should lead from a unit through regional and to national level at the Department of Health and Social Security, with a specialised pharmaceutical department at each level and pharmacist staff members responsible for administration. The written evidence explained how the career structure should be tailored to attract graduates into the service and to ensure that they remained in it. The graduate entering the hospital service must know that, within a reasonable period of time, his salary would be comparable with salaries obtained at the same stage of career by pharmacists in other branches of practice and by holders, within the hospital service of equivalent degrees in other disciplines.

Second speaker at the morning session was MR. W. A. BEANLAND, whose title was "The Positive Rôle of Ethics." Mr. Beanland said that, if people voluntarily agreed to accept some limitation on their freedom of action, it could well be to the public benefit.

"Positive Rôle" of Ethics

The positive value of those restraints was that they enabled the public to obtain a uniform service which they could recognise and in which they could have confidence. Professional people dealt in services or goods whose quality could be determined only by those with special knowledge. Pharmacy was probably unique in being, in a description applied to it in the House of Lords, a "trading profession." They might sell what they pleased, and in whatever manner they pleased, provided they were not (in words from the Dickson judgment) "harming or thwarting a proper adherence to professional standards and behaviour." It was wrong to think that Society looked down on shopkeeping. Pharmacists had always "kept open shop" and did so today. But pharmacists must surely

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impose some voluntary restraints if they were to retain any semblance of being an organised profession. "By all means let us modernise our shops but let it be done in such a way that it remains clear that they are pharmacies." The pharmaceutical side should not be relegated to some obscure corner. It could only be harmful to the profession if businesses developed that were so swamped with general trading that it was scarcely apparent that pharmacy was, or could be, practised. Restraint in that field would, in his opinion, be of positive value. Without it, pharmacy would not maintain, let alone improve, its standing as a profession.

No one would doubt today that the "code's" prohibition of advertising was of positive value to the profession. Recently the Statutory Committee had confirmed that that attitude was desirable by imposing, as it were, compulsory restraint.

Changes in attitudes were always taking place. For example, the ban on displaying of contraceptives was beginning to seem a little out of tune with the times. Questions such as whether pregnancy diagnosis services should be advertised, could only be answered by an expressed opinion on the part of the profession as a whole. At the end of 1968 there had been 3,736 superintendent pharmacists of companies, and probably nearly as many managers were employed by companies and by other pharmacists. Those employees should be prepared to express their own views and not merely, as so often, accept the dictates of their employers, inevitably based mainly on commercial considerations.

Listeners' Comments

When the meeting was opened to discussion on the two papers, MR. C. C. STEVENS rose to explain that the remit of the Noel-Hall working party gave it no power to make salary recommendations, which were the prerogative of Whitley Council committee C. But a subcommittee of the Committee, cross-fertilised from the working party was simultaneously considering salaries.

MISS E. M. HURST, Liverpool, thought the power of the Council would become more apparent if, like the General Nursing Council, they sent inspectors to examine and approve hospital arrangements in which their members operated. That prompted MR. JACK FOGG, Abergale, to recall a stratagem that had been employed a few years earlier by the pharmacist at a Burnley hospital, which had asked for approval of the premises for accepting an apprentice or student and had in that way secured a "not approved" decision on accommodation he wanted condemned and reconstructed. Sadly Mr. Fogg said his pessimistic view was that the hospital chief pharmacist was the head of a department but "didn't belong anywhere." The only result of the Zuckerman findings would be that the medical consultants would take over any job that seemed interesting.

MR. STEVENS said that while the Society had legally no power of in-

spection of hospital departments, a memorandum by the Ministry had promised that they would be brought to the same standards as the Medicines Act applied to general-practice pharmacies.

Inspectors would not be able to give much help in getting accommodation put right, said MR. J. G. ROBERTS, Chester. That must be done direct. As a member of the Guild council he thought the Society could do a lot more for hospital pharmacists' image. The "public image" of pharmacy was the same for the hospital pharmacist as for the chemist in retail and it was ridiculous for the smaller group to "go it alone". All members should work together and he cited one instance in which hospital pharmacists had persuaded representatives to influence general medical practitioners to discontinue prescribing a speciality for a purpose for which it was not medically appropriate.

The last Branch Representatives' meeting, said MR. C. H. BRUNNING, Caergwale, had called for a "better public-relations establishment." Pharmacists performed a function of which they alone were capable, and some method was essential of making the public aware of that situation.

MR. F. B. FAWCETT, Rock Ferry, said pharmacists must cease to go each his own way. They must come together and go the same way. How could the ethical code be made to fit the need of each pharmacist, he asked, to which MRS. LEIGH made the rejoinder that members must tailor their practices to fit the code. MR. BEANLAND, also from the platform, urged members to cease looking for "them" to do something for them and to do something to assert their own authority and status.

Implications of the "Green Paper"

In the first paper of the afternoon session MR. C. C. STEVENS, gave his views on likely or possible changes in the Health Service. Its present tripartite structure (hospital, public-health and general-services) had been very necessary, he said, in 1948, when N.H.S. took over from a hybrid group of private and voluntary hospitals. That had been a masterpiece of organisation. But the service was now twenty-one years old and medicine did not stay still. During his term as Minister of Health, Mr. Kenneth Robinson had decided to take a look at N.H.S. structure, and his observations formed the 1968 "Green Paper," described as "essentially a document for discussion." The Green Paper had been much criticised, especially by those who operated the service. Its main conceptions were a single in place of the tripartite structure, new area boards, and a hierarchy of control including a Chief Medical Officer assisted by professionals from each contributory service but divorced from day-to-day work within it.

As one of the bodies whose comments had been invited the Pharmaceutical Society had produced a document that was acknowledged one of the best that the Minister received. The document had stressed that it was paramount that full service should be

available to every patient, that so many Area Boards and a single-tier system were not the right basis — 20-25 boards as first-tier and about 200 area executives as a second tier below them would be better. The Council objected to a Chief Medical Officer having sole direct access to Area Boards and was doubtful about the value of an "ombudsman" to professionals within the service.

"Pounds, Shillings and Prestige"

The Society's treasurer (MR. H. STEINMAN) gave the second paper, whose title was "Pounds, Shillings and Prestige." He had, he said, no intention of attempting to produce a detailed balance-sheet, three columns each headed by one of the words of his title. "Prestige is not susceptible to precise measurement and carries no price tag." A profession had to earn its prestige, and maintained its status by striving to serve the public interest. The Council's activities at Bloomsbury Square enhanced the prestige of pharmacy and, in so doing, brought credit to the individual pharmacist.

One must look first at the educational pattern. It must not be assumed now that pharmaceutical education was based on degree courses instead of on the diploma, that the Society was no longer closely associated with pharmaceutical education. A subcommittee considered the degrees as introduced by the Schools, and advised on their acceptability for statutory registration. Though educational grants to pharmacists and students were now withdrawn, the sums previously expended on those grants had been used to increase the value and number of the annual research awards.

Facilities were provided for revision courses in pharmaceutical legislation, and for vacation courses for teachers in pharmaceutical subjects. Pharmacy as a career was vigorously promoted by career conventions serviced from headquarters, and careers literature.

Achievement by the Council, had been to insist that the position of the pharmacist at a health centre must be that of a chemist contractor, not an employee of the local health authority.

All would have noted with satisfaction that a seat on the Medicines Commission was reserved for at least one person with wide and recent experience of the practice of pharmacy. The Act also established the principle that the supply to the public of all medicines, except those on a general sale list, must be restricted to pharmacies.

In the House of Lords a firm promise had been given by the Government that "ready-made licences" for small-scale manufacture would be issued more or less on demand to pharmacists.

The Society's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, formed in 1959, made a massive contribution to pharmacists' corporate reputation, providing him with "scientific stock," and advancing pharmaceutical practice. During the past year, the Department had worked with the British Standards Institution (in drawing up draft specifications for tablet and ointment containers) and with the Society of Cosmetic Chemists.

Three "prestigious events" of 1969 would be the British Pharmaceutical Conference meeting in Belfast in September; the Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Conference in London in June; and the twenty-ninth International Congress of Pharmaceutical Sciences, also in London in September. The British Pharmaceutical Conference served to remind the public that pharmacy was a science-based profession seeking to further its own knowledge in the service of the public. The Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Conference, the result of an initiative taken by the Society, was likely to lead to the formation of a permanent pharmaceutical association within the Commonwealth. The International Congress of Pharmaceutical Sciences would also reflect credit upon British pharmacy.

The prestige of the profession was finally in the hands of each member of the Society. Headquarters tried to give a lead. But ultimately the public's opinion of pharmacy depended upon the individual pharmacist.

Questions on the Papers

Though half an hour had been allowed for discussion on the afternoon's two papers, little was forthcoming. MRS. E. LUCAS-SMITH, Slough, asked Mr. Stevens whether pharmacists were fully covered, from a legal aspect, when refusing to prescribe amphetamine powders, as recommended by the Pharmaceutical Society's Council. MR. STEVENS replied that no pharmacist was under any legal duty to serve any customer, except under contract. Refusal to dispense a prescription was a breach of contract but there was a legal principle "No action on an evil course." MR. STEINMAN interpolated that, whatever the legal requirements, he would face the consequences of refusing to supply amphetamine powders on prescription. MR. E. J. NAYLOR, Warrington, asked whether in view of the increasing interest of the public in drugs, and the greater pressure on the pharmacist to take security measures, the Council was taking any action to protect members' financial interests in the matter. MR. HOWELLS said that information was awaited about the likely requirements and about who would be paying for any security measures called for; the Council would certainly contest requirements involving high cost to the pharmacist, and any pharmacist who was asked by his local police to take security measures at his own cost should contact the Society's headquarters.

Asked what had to be done with a prescription for amphetamine powder that was refused, THE PRESIDENT said a private prescription should be returned to the patient and an N.H.S. prescription to the Executive Council, each marked "Not dispensed."

The agenda allowed for a one-hour period during which the four principal speakers would form a panel to answer questions on any matters of interest raised from the floor. Announcing the opening of the period at around 3.30 p.m. THE PRESIDENT said that the panel was being increased by the inclusion of the vice-president (Mr. W. M. Darling).

An early question concerned the ban on "counter prescribing" medicine for persons not present in the pharmacy, and whether that was sensible. MR. DARLING said there was much in favour of the limitation, but pointed out that the pharmacist could still supply for a person not present a product that was "licensed," or a proprietary. MR. STEVENS pointed out that the Medicines Act allowed the pharmacist to prescribe for the person in the shop but not to diagnose. MR. D. H. MADDOCK, from the floor but as a member of Council, said the Medicines Act enabled the pharmacist to exercise his responsibility. He could question a person in the shop and if necessary to send him to the doctor; he could not do that for a person not present. MR. J. R. DALE, the Society's chief inspector, said that in his view the pharmacist did, in fact, diagnose. He was always entitled to hand out licensed products and as that included all products of the British National Formulary the rather absurd situation existed that a pharmacist could prescribe mist. kaolin. sed. but not mist. kaolin. sed. modified by another ingredient. MR. C. H. BRUNNING said that seemed to presuppose that the pharmacist could legally sell proprietary rubbish but could not make up a sound product, a situation that seemed to him to be totally immoral.

MR. P. E. TAYLOR, North Staffs, brought up the question of "N.P." At present, he said, a prescriber must indicate in a square on EC10 if he did not wish the name of the medicine to be disclosed to the patient. It should be the other way round. Why had the Council agreed to accept "N.P." and was it the Council's view that submitting the proposed procedure to Pharmaceutical Committees for approval was of any value? MR. STEINMAN replied that pressure had come from the medical profession, which had been greatly helped by the campaigning of Sir Derek Dunlop. The Council had eventually been forced to admit that there were no medical reasons against the procedure, and the Central N.H.S. Committee had later accepted the inevitability of accepting the situation.

Advantage of Disclosure

MR. A. LEECH, Liverpool, took the view that patients and pharmacists alike suffered if the contents of the prescription were not disclosed on the label. Labelling made medicine-takers more responsible. However, pharmacists must put across the idea that medicines were prescribed for one person. That made it fundamental that the name of the patient should be on the label and in Scandinavia even the date of the patient's birth was given.

MR. T. W. WEBSTER, Wirral, speaking as a "faceless member of industry," said that licences were apparently to be granted on demand to the pharmacist in general practice, but they might not find their path entirely rosy: there were problems of batch numbers, stability tests, etc.

MR. LLOYD JONES, Rhyl, asked the Council's opinion on the rejection by the British Medical Association of a recommendation, made by the Phar-

maceutical Committees, that limitations of prescribing should be placed on potent medicaments. MRS. LEIGH considered that the B.M.A.'s rejection had little to do with its ostensible reason of economy. She promised that the Society would take up the matter with the B.M.A.. MR. STEINMAN thought the problem could be solved by meetings between pharmacists and the Local Medical Committee.

MR. W. A. BEANLAND, from the platform, said that on counter prescribing there was no sheer black or sheer white. Correct procedure varied according to circumstances. There was, for example, the patient who knew exactly what he wanted, there was no point in arguing with him. There was the patient who did not know, but who knew he did not want to visit the doctor. It was wrong and immoral to make up a mixture for a patient the pharmacist could not see.

The 5-ml Spoon

A questioner from Wrexham asked why a spoon had been decided on for the 5-ml dose, and MR. J. FERGUSON replied that the spoon had first been chosen for linctuses, which were most readily taken from a spoon. The Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences had wanted a measure for other medicines but, when they tried them out on the public found that about 5 per cent. of persons filled the measure to the brim. That had been thought too risky and so the decision had fallen on the spoon as the standard device.

A Chester pharmacist said that the British Standard requirement for the 5-ml spoon was based on its being filled to the top of the meniscus. The Ministry's leaflet gave instructions under which the patient received more than that quantity. It would surely have been better to have designed a spoon that would give the correct measure when filled according to the Ministry's instructions. MR. FERGUSON said it would have been difficult to tell the public about "meniscus." Another member said that, at the Birmingham Branch Representatives' meeting, the question of limitation of pharmacists had been discussed by Mr. J. P. Kerr. Would a summary of progress now be forthcoming? MR. DARLING said that Mr. Kerr had been speaking about the Council Committee on Planned Distribution. That Committee was meeting every month and considering every interest in pharmacy. It had formulated a scheme for the rural areas that was now going out to other interested bodies. It would then be submitted to members of the Society and finally to the Government. Basis of the proposals to ensure that as many members of the public as possible should have access to pharmaceutical service. Undue haste in producing a limitation scheme would be wrong.

MR. A. W. NEWBERRY had praise for the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and asked whether its recorded lecture on metrication could be shown to medical audiences. MR. STEINMAN said that that had already been done in Manchester. Over 100 had turned up to see it at the pharmacists' meeting.

TRADE REPORT

The prices given are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. Various charges have to be added whereby values are augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock.

LONDON, MARCH 19. The CRUDE DRUGS market experienced another quiet week with shortages persisting in many items. CASCARA was short on the spot but forward rates were unchanged. PODOPHYLLUM, QUILLAIA, SARSAPARILLA and white SQUILL were all unobtainable at origin. HYDRASTIS was one shilling lb lower in both positions. Among AROMATIC SEEDS, Iranian CUMIN advanced 25s. cwt on the spot and current crop for shipment was quoted higher on reports that the new crop would be poor. BUCHU offers were difficult to obtain and Costa Rican IPECACUANHA was about one shilling lb dearer for shipment. Nigerian split GINGER was unobtainable and the peeled was advanced 20s. cwt.

In ESSENTIAL OILS, Ceylon CITRONELLA was threepence dearer on the spot, while for shipment Brazilian PEPPERMINT was also up threepence. PETITGRAIN moved up sixpence on the spot and threepence for forward delivery. PALMAROSA was 10s. kg dearer for both positions.

Pharmaceutical Chemicals

ATROPINE.—(Per kg for 500-g. lots): ALKALOID and METHONITRATE, 1,200s.; METHYLBROMIDE, 1,183s.; SULPHATE, 970s.

BENZAMINE LACTATE.—In 500-g. lots 1,023s. per kg.

BISMUTH SALTS.—(Per kg):—

Quantity	Under 50	50	250
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
CARBONATE ...	92 0	90 0	89 0
SALICYLATE ...	8 0	79 0	—
SUBGALLATE ...	78 0	76 0	—
SUBNITRATE ...	83 0	81 0	80 0

BORAX.—B.P. grade, 1 ton and upward; in sacks, granular, £56 10s.; crystals, £60; powder, £61; extra fine powder, £62 per ton. Less £1 in paper bags. Anhydrous £61 10s. in paper bags. Surcharge for less than 1 ton but not less than 10 cwt, 2s. per cwt; 5 to 9 cwt, 10s.; 1 to 5 cwt, 20s.

BROMIDES.—Crystals (per kg):—

	Under 50 kg	50 kg	250 kg
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
POTASSIUM*...	6 5	5 10½	5 8
SODIUM ...	6 5	5 10½	5 8
AMMONIUM...	7 4	6 9½	6 6

* Powder 4d. kg more.

CANTHARIDIN.—£75 per 100 g.

CHLOROFORM.—35-lb lots of B.P. in winchesters, 9s. 7½d. per lb.

CHLORAL HYDRATE.—1-cwt 4s. 8d. per lb.

CHLOROXYLENOL.—B.P.C., 7s. 6d. per lb. for 1-cwt lots delivered.

CINCHOCALINE.—HYDROCHLORIDE, 850s. kg.

CORTISONE.—1-kg lots, ACETATE, 4s. 6d.; HYDROCORTISONE ACETATE OR ALCOHOL, 4s. 6d. per g.

DIENESTROL.—B.P. is 1s. 3d. per g for 5-kg lots.

DIGOXIN.—100-g lots are 40s. per g.

DITHRANOL.—B.P., 330s. per kg, for 5-kg lots.

ETHER, B.P.—Per litre in 2-l winchesters SOLVENT, 350 l, 5s. 0½d. ANAESTHETIC, 6s. 8d.

EMETINE.—HYDROCHLORIDE, £450 kg.

EPHEDRINE.—HYDROCHLORIDE, 4s. 9d. per oz for 1,000-oz lots. METHYL derivative, 425s. kg.

ERGOMETRINE.—MALEATE, B.P., 144s. per g for 5-g lots; 10-g, 138s. g.

ETHYL ALCOHOL.—(Prices per proof gall.) PLAIN BRITISH SPIRIT, 66 over-proof (o.p.), in bulk, minimum 2,500 gal, 4s., 500 gal, 4s. 1d.; minimum 900 gal in drums, 4s. 2d. S.V.R. (68.5 o.p.), 4s. 2d., 4s. 3d. and 4s. 4½d. for same quantities. Absolute (74.5 o.p.), 4s. 4d., 4s. 5d., 4s. 6½d. SYNTHETIC grades minimum 2,500 gal 66 o.p., 2s. 11½d., 900 gal in drums, 3s. 1d. Absolute, 3s. 1½d., 3s. 4d. Current duty on fermentation grades, £18 18s. 8d. p.p.g.

GLUCOSE.—(Per ton) MONOHYDRATE, B.P. powder, £76; ANHYDROUS, £48 10s.; LIQUID, 43° Baumé, £59 10s. (5-drum lots).

GLYCERIN.—B.P. grade, per cwt.

	Over 25 tons	5 tons and under 25 tons	1 ton and under 5 tons	Under 1 ton
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5-cwt drums	245 0	247 0	250 0	256 0
2½-cwt "	248 0	250 0	253 0	259 0
56-lb tins ...	252 0	254 0	257 0	263 0
28-lb "	274 0	276 0	281 0	290 0
14-lb "	278 0	280 0	285 0	294 0

Bulk tank wagon loads from 241s. to 242s. 6d. Technical grade, less 5s. cwt.

GLYCEROPHOSPHATES.—Per kg in 50-kg lots; CALCIUM, B.P.C., 29s. 6d.; IRON, 37s. 10d.; MAGNESIUM, 39s. 11d.; MANGANESE, 57s. 5d.; POTASSIUM, 50 per cent., B.P.C., 9s. 8d.; SODIUM, 50 per cent., B.P.C., 6s. 11d. and powder, B.P.C., 1949, 22s. 10d.; GLYCEROPHOSPHORIC ACID, 20 per cent., 12s.

HEXAMINE.—B.P.C. 1959, 50-kg lots are 6s. per kg.

HYDROGEN PEROXIDE.—For 27.5 per cent., by weight, £115 per ton; 35 per cent., £138.

HYDROQUINONE.—1-cwt lots, 10s. per lb. 1-ton, 8s. 6d.

HYOSCYAMINE SULPHATE.—1-kg lots, 1,357s.

HYPOPHOSPHITES.—Per kg:—

Quantity	5 kg	12.5 kg	50 kg
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
CALCIUM, B.P.C.	21 8	17 10	16 7
IRON, B.P.C. ...	39 3	38 0	36 9
MANGANESE, B.P.C.	—	37 2	36 0
POTASSIUM, B.P.C.	27 1	24 9	23 6
SODIUM, B.P.C. ...	—	20 1	18 10

IODIDES.—(Per kg) POTASSIUM (50 kg) 26s. 3d.; SODIUM (25 kg), 34s. 3d.

IODINE.—(Per kg in 50-kg); B.P., 28s. 6d. RESUBLIMED, 36s. 9d.—CRUDE, 22s. 11d.

IRON SALTS.—AMMONIUM CITRATE, 250 kg, 9s. 7d. kg; SULPHATE, exsiccated, 2s. 8d. kg. FERROUS GLUCONATE, 25-kg, 11s. 7d. kg; 50-200 kg, 11s. 1d.; 250-950 kg, 10s. 8d.

ISOPRENALINE SULPHATE.—5-kg, 273s. per kg.

MERCURY SALTS.—Per kg for under 50-kg lots—AMMONIATED powder, 168s.; PERCHLORIDE, 145s.; SUBCHLORIDE, 171s. OXIDES, yellow, 177s. and red, 182s. IODIDE (25-kg lots), 122s.

MERCUROCHROME.—145s. 4d. per kg.

MERSALYL.—ACID, 283s. per kg; SODIUM, 380s.

METHYLATED SPIRITS.—(Per gal in 45-gal drums, 450-gal, 66 o.p.) INDUSTRIAL, 5s. 7½d.; PERFUMERY grade, 6s. 10d.; mineralised (64 o.p.), 5s. 11d.

PARACETAMOL.—250-kg, 21s. 10½d. kg.

PHENACETIN.—B.P. 1,000 kg, 13s. 11½d. kg.

PHENAZONE.—1-cwt lots, 9s. 6d. per lb.

PHENOLPHTHALEIN.—1-cwt, 9s. per lb.

PIPERAZINE.—Less than 50 kg are: ADIPATE, 19s. 3d. per kg; CITRATE, 18s. 6d.;

HEXAHYDRATE, 13s. 3d.; PHOSPHATE, 20s. 6d.; TARTRATE, 19s. 6d.

PREDNISOLONE.—ALCOHOL and ACETATE from 7s. per g.

QUINIDINE.—SULPHATE. 14s. 4d. per oz for 1,000-oz lots. ALKALOID, 17s. oz (500-oz).

QUININE.—In 1,000-oz lots (per oz). SULPHATE, 7s. 8d.; HYDROCHLORIDE, 9s. 5d.; BISULPHATE, 7s. 7d.; DIHYDROCHLORIDE, 10s. 1d.; ALKALOID, 10s.; HYDROBROMIDE, (500-oz lots). 10s. 3d.

SALICYLAMIDE.—250-kg, 13s. 3½d. per kg.

THEOBROMINE.—ALKALOID from 25s. 11d. per kg, c.i.f.

THEOPHYLLINE.—50-kg lots and over: B.P., 37s. 3d. per kg; HYDRATE, B.P., 36s. 3d. and AMINOPHYLLINE, 36s. 3d. per kg.

UREA.—B.P., £57 ton; technical, £38.

Crude Drugs

BUCHU.—LEAVES, spot nominal; shipment 21s.-22s. lb, c.i.f.

CARDAMONS.—(Per lb). Alleppy greens, 24s. 6d., c.i.f.; prime seed, 37s., c.i.f.

CASCARA.—Spot, 300s. cwt nominal; 280s., c.i.f.

CLOVES.—Zanzibar, 17s. lb spot; 15s. 6d., c.i.f.

GINGER.—(Per cwt)—Nigerian split, no offers; peeled, 290s.; Jamacian No. 3, 500s., all spot.

PEPPER.—(Per lb)—Sarawak white, 2s. 9d. on spot; 2s. 8½d., c.i.f.; black, 2s. 5½d., spot; 2s. 3d., c.i.f. Brazilian, 2s. 6d., spot.

QUILLAIA.—350s. cwt, spot nominal.

SARSAPARILLA.—Spot, 4s. 9d. lb; no c.i.f. offers.

SEEDS.—(Per cwt).—ANISE.—China star, unselected, 247s. 6d.; Spanish green, 260s. both duty paid. CARAWAY.—Dutch, 180s., spot. CELERY.—Indian not available on spot, current crop 450s., c.i.f. new crop, July-August, 325s. c.i.f. CORIANDER.—Moroccan, 72s. 6d., spot; afloat, 67s. 6d., c.i.f. Rumanian split, 66s., duty paid. CUMIN.—Iranian advanced to 200s., duty paid and 180s., c.i.f. DILL.—Indian, 160s., spot, nominal; 125s., c.i.f., Chinese, 110s., spot; 28s. 6d., c.i.f. FENNEL.—Chinese, 120s., spot; 92s. 6d., c.i.f. FENUGREEK.—Moroccan 70s., duty paid 60s. c.i.f. MUSTARD.—English, 65s. to 95s. as to quality.

TURMERIC.—Madras finger, spot, 275s., cwt; shipment, 255s., c.i.f.

WAXES.—(Per cwt) Bees', Dar-es-Salaam, 760s., c.i.f. CANDELILLA, 550s., spot; CARNAUBA, fatty grey, 330s. spot; 305s., c.i.f.; prime yellow, 450s., 415s., c.i.f.

Essential and Expressed Oils

CITRONELLA.—Ceylon, 7s. 9d. per lb spot; 7s. 6d., c.i.f.; Formosan, 6s. 3d., in bond; 6s. 6d., c.i.f.; Chinese, 5s. 1d., in bond; 5s. 1½d., c.i.f.

GRAPEFRUIT.—Florida, 25s. lb, spot.

PALMAROSA.—200s. kg, spot; 195s., c.i.f.

PEPPERMINT.—(Per lb) *Arvensis*: Chinese, 9s. 9d., spot, 9s. 3d., c.i.f. Brazilian, 9s. 7½d., spot; 9s. 3d., c.i.f., American *Piperita*, 40s. to 60s.; Italian, 95s.

PETITGRAIN.—Paraguay for shipment, 17s. 9d. lb, c.i.f.; spot, 18s. 6d.

UNITED STATES REPORT

NEW YORK, MARCH 18: Dealers reported stocks of WAXES were getting back to normal after the dock strike. Firm conditions continued in CLOVE OIL as a result of which EUGENOL rose 35 cents lb to \$3.45 and \$3.75 lb as to grade.

TRANSPORT NOTES

For Petrol, Oil and Spares.—Blue Star Garages, Ltd., Blue Star House, Highgate Hill, London, N.19, state that companies can arrange for their representatives or drivers to be issued with a credit card, enabling the immediate purchase at any of the 270 nationwide Blue Star garages of petrol, oil, spares and services. Accounts are handled centrally by computer and issued to the companies concerned showing the details of daily purchases against each credit card, supported by the documents signed by the representative or driver when making the purchase. Thus the companies' receiving routines are avoided, as are individual cash transactions and the need for cash floats. The credit card facilities are arranged quickly on application to the company's national accounts manager.

PACKAGING NOTES

Metric Ribbed Ovals Now Available.—Beatson, Clark & Co., Ltd., Rotherham, Yorks, now have available their range of ribbed oval bottles in metric sizes to British Standard Specification 1679, part 7. The sizes are 50, 100, 200, 300 and 500 ml. White flint bottles are being marketed immediately, and an amber version should become available towards the end of May. Shape is similar to that of existing ribbed ovals. Neck finish is as in the R/3 series, accepting caps of "shallow" type. Supplies of bottles and caps are obtainable through usual wholesalers. In about two months' time Messrs. Beatson, Clark will be introducing their range of sloping-shoulder flats in metric sizes for use on fast filling lines.

Conveyor Slats in Plastic.—A new type of plastic conveyor slat, developed to overcome some of the problems inherent in conveyor systems using metal slats, has been developed by A. E. S. Plastics, Ltd., 44 Tower Hill, London, E.C.3. Known as Duratrak, the slat is made from Kematal acetal copolymer and needs no lubrication. It has a durability and design claimed

superior to that of other types, particularly under shock loading conditions — such as when a jam occurs. Kematal has good resistance to most chemicals including alkalis and acids; it is not affected by hot soap or detergent solutions and will withstand boiling water. The track is available in various widths.

Standards for Polythene Film Products.—The Plastic Films Converters Group (the trade association whose membership includes the major converters of polythene and other plastic films in the United Kingdom, has produced three voluntary standards as a guide for converters and users of bags and overwrapping material made from unsupported polythene film. The standards are 1/69 "Flexographic Printed Polythene Reels," 2/69 "Unprinted and Flexographic Printed End Seal Polythene Bags," both 100-500 gauge inclusive, and 3/69 "Unprinted and Flexographic Printed Sideweld Polythene Bags" 100-250 gauge inclusive. Copies are available from the Group at 10 Vernon House, Sicilian Avenue, London, W.C.1. The three booklets cost 7s. 6d. (2s. 6d. each) including postage.

PATENTS

COMPLETE SPECIFICATIONS ACCEPTED

From the "Official Journal (Patents),"
March 5, 1969

- Anaesthetising apparatus.* O. H. Drager (trading as Dragerwerk, Heinh. and Bernh. Drager). 1,148,516.
Packaging of sterile liquids. Tetra Pak, A.B. 1,148,645.
Phenylbenz(f)-2,5-oxazocine derivatives and homologues and pharmaceutical compositions. Rexall Drug and Chemical Co. 1,148,717.
Phenyl benzoxazocinones and their preparation. Rexall Drug and Chemical Co. 1,148,718.
Analysis of rhythmic biological processes. Bulgarska Akademie na Naukite. 1,148,721.
Methods of controlling aquatic weeds using water-soluble azides. PPG Industries, Inc. 1,148,733.
Method and apparatus for treating blood preliminary to its use in transfusions. R. L. Swank. 1,148,744.
Stabilised antibiotic compositions. Miles Laboratories, Inc. 1,148,801.
Fungicide. E. Merck. A.G. 1,148,810.
β-Homo-steroids. Syntex Corporation. 1,148,898.
4,5-seco-steroids, their preparation and cyclization. Merck & Co., Inc. 1,149,036.
Hypodermic injection apparatus. Secretary of State for Defence. 1,149,041.
Closure device for containers. D. H. Trott. 1,149,059.
Means for detecting malignant cells in human and animal tissue. International Research and Development Co., Ltd. 1,149,064.
Penicillin esters of chloramphenicol. C. F. Vazquez. 1,149,066.
Production of kasugamycin. Zaidan Hojin Biseibutsu Kagaku Kenkyukai. 1,149,080.
Nicotinic acid derivatives of vitamin B₆ and process for preparation thereof. Dainippon Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. 1,149,086.
Herbicidal compounds and composition. Eli Lilly & Co. 1,149,139.
Betaine derivatives and hair washing preparation containing them. TH. Goldschmidt, A.G. 1,149,140.
Absorption pad for use in the treatment of wounds or the care of infants. Page-Zellstoffkepp, G.m.b.H. 1,149,161.
British patent specifications relating to the above will be obtainable (price 4s. 6d. each) from the Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2, from April 16, 1969.

From the "Official Journal (Patents),"
March 12

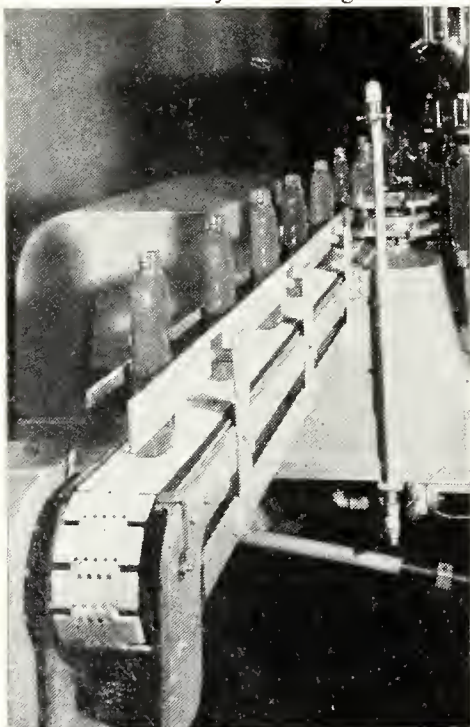
- 19-Nor-testosterone esters.* Organon Laboratories, Ltd. 1,149,256.
Nucleoside phosphates. Upjohn Co. 1,149,261.
Nucleoside derivatives and the manufacture thereof. Upjohn Co. 1,149,262.
Arylpyrazolyl-(1)-stilbene compounds. Farbenfabriken Bayer, A.G. 1,149,286.
Therapeutically active hydroxychloroquine salts. Ercopharm, A.S. 1,149,313.
Anticoccidial composition. Soc. Farmaceutici Italia. 1,149,318.
Sanitary napkin. Procter & Gamble Co. 1,149,324.
α-Substituted ketones and process for their preparation. Boehringer Ingelheim, G.m.b.H. 1,149,366.
Compounds from Ravensara aromatica and process for preparing it. Farbwerke Hoechst, A.G. 1,149,369.
Sterile, self-propelled powder aerosol system. Ncisler Laboratories, Inc. 1,149,432.
Aroylalkyl derivatives of 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-5 H-pyrido [4,3b] indoles. Abbott Laboratories 1,149,442.
Diacetone-L-sorbose and the preparation thereof. Shionogi & Co., Ltd. 1,149,453.
Process for the manufacture of isoquinoline derivatives. F. Hoffmann-La Roche & Co., A.G. 1,149,463.
Phenthiazine derivatives. Rhonc-Poulenc, S.A. 1,149,466.
19-Fluro-19-oxo-derivatives of androstane and pregnane. Syntex Corporation. 1,149,503.
19-Methyl-19-oxo derivatives of androstane and pregnane. Syntex Corporation. 1,149,504.
Imindibenzyl derivatives and a process for the manufacture thereof. Roche Products, Ltd. 1,149,507.
Iminodibenzyl derivatives. Roche Products, Ltd. 1,149,508.
Dithiophosphonic acid esters, their preparation and use as pesticides. Farbwerke Hoechst, A.G. 1,149,563.
2-Halogenmethyl - benzoxazoles. Farbwerke Hoechst, A.G. 1,149,564.
Ergoline derivatives. Sandoz, Ltd. 1,149,565.
Heat exchanger device for pressurised dispensing packages. Gillette Co. 1,149,599.
Analgesic amines. E. R. Squibb & Sons, Inc. 1,149,615.
Pyrazinimidoylguanidines. Merck & Co., Inc. 1,149,638.
3-Amino-6-halopyrazinonitriles and their preparation. Merck & Co., Inc. 1,149,639.
Amino-halopteridines and pharmaceutical compositions containing them. Merck & Co., Inc. 1,149,640.
Sterilization of solids for use in aqueous suspensions. Merck & Co., Inc. 1,149,648.
Dinucleoside phosphates. Upjohn Co. 1,149,669.
Nucleotides and the manufacture thereof. Upjohn Co. 1,149,670.
Steroids and the manufacture thereof. Upjohn Co. 1,149,733.
Steroids related to estrone. Merck & Co., Inc. 1,149,737.
Razor blades. Gillette Industries, Ltd. 1,149,781.
Substituted alpha-haloacetaldehydes and herbicidal compositions containing them. Monsanto Co. 1,149,843.
British patent specification relating to the above will be obtainable (price 4s. 6d. each) from the Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2, from April 23, 1969.

TRADE MARKS

APPLICATIONS ADVERTISED BEFORE REGISTRATION

"Trade Marks Journal", March 5, No. 4723

- FILIDOR**, 930,215, by Aspro-Nicholas, Ltd., Slough, Bucks. For medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations and substances (5)
DRAPSULETS, 930,493, by Roche Products, Ltd., Welwyn Garden City, Herts. For pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary substances (5)
LARGATREX, 931,850, by May & Baker, Ltd., Dagenham, Essex. For pharmaceutical preparations and substances for human and veterinary use (5)



ELOCIL, 929,960, by CIBA, Ltd., Basle, Switzerland. For chemical preparations for killing weeds and destroying vermin (5)

GERMOSPRAY, B930,782, by Veno Drug Co., Brentford, Middlesex. For insecticides, air fresheners, deodorants and disinfectants, all being in aerosol form (5)

FERNOTAC, 931,210, by Plant Protection, Ltd., London, S.W.1, and Yalding, Kent. For insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, weedkilling preparations and chemical preparations for desiccating and defoliating plants (5)

MULTIMATIC, 930,075, by Paillard, S.A., Sainte-Croix (Vaud), France. For photographic cameras and photographic apparatus; cinematographic cameras and cinematographic apparatus; photographic and cinematographic projection apparatus; etc., and parts and fittings (9)

ASTRALUX, 926,029, by Astralux Tiefenstrahler-Quarzlampen Frans Mitterdorfer, Vienna, 8, Austria. For quartz lamps and infra-red lamps, for medical, surgical and curative purposes, and lamps for tanning the human body (10)

Device, 927,699, by Teledyne, Inc., Los Angeles, California, U.S.A. For surgical, medical and dental instruments and apparatus, and parts (10)

PRINT AND PUBLICITY

A MEDICAL brochure about Ayds, slimming product of Cuticura Laboratories, Ltd., Clivemont Road, Cordwallis Trading Estate, Maidenhead, Berks, is being sent to general medical practitioners and consultant physicians. Though Ayds is not a prescription product, it was felt that patients might ask their doctors about its safety and its modus operandi. The brochure contains details of clinical trials and usage and a general section on obesity and the control of food intake. Pharmacists can obtain free copies from the company.

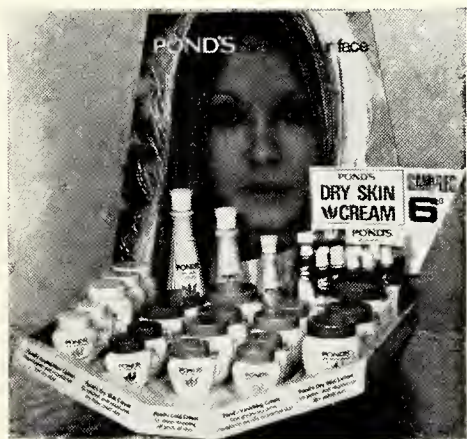
PRESS ADVERTISING

COTY (ENGLAND), LTD., Sandwich, Kent: Innovation. In *Vogue*, *Vanity Fair*, *Nineteen*, *Honey*, *Nova* and *Petticoat*, May to July.

TONI CO., 101 Syon Lane, Isleworth, Middlesex. Bud deodorant. In mass-circulation women's magazines. Also new cinema commercial. From April onwards.

DISPLAY MATERIAL

JACKEL & Co., LTD., Kitty Brewster Estate, Blyth, Northumberland: Stand (22 x 22 x 66-in high) available to dealers ordering Tommee Tippee baby goods to a certain value.



TRAY AND SAMPLE OFFER: The Ponds range of creams for the face presented on a tray that serves the dual purposes of display piece and stock unit. The manufacturers, Chesebrough-Ponds, Ltd., Victoria Road, London, N.W.10, have included a subdivision offering sixpenny samples of Ponds dry skin cream.

COMING EVENTS

Items for inclusion under this heading should be sent in time to reach the Editor not later than first post on Wednesday of the week of insertion.

Sunday, March 23

MANCHESTER AND SALEORD BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Owens Park, Fallowfield, Manchester, at 10.15 a.m. One-day school on "Forensic Changes." Lecturer: Mr. L. Priest (headquarters staff, Pharmaceutical Society). Subjects: "Medicine Commission and Licensing," "Supply of Medicinal Products and the Conduct of Pharmacies" and "Advertising, Books of Standards and Enforcements."

Monday, March 24

BIOLOGICAL COUNCIL'S CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR SYMPOSIA ON DRUG ACTION, Mechanical engineering department, Imperial College, London, S.W.7. Symposium on calcium and cellular function.

ENEIELD CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION, Wheatsheaf hotel, Baker Street, Enfield, at 7.45 p.m. Speaker from Almay (London, New York), on "Non-allergic Cosmetics."

IMPO 69 (Photographic Importers' Association), Central hotel, Gordon Street, Glasgow, C.1, 2 p.m.-9 p.m. Also on Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

NORTHAMPTON BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Plough hotel, Bridge Street, Northampton, at 8 p.m. Mr. S. J. Carter on "Containers for Dispensing." (Lecture course).

OIL AND COLOUR CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION TECHNICAL EXHIBITION, Alexandra Palace, London, N.22. Until March 28.

RETAIL ALLIANCE, Grand hotel, Gold Street, Northampton, at 7 p.m. Decimalisation meeting.

Tuesday, March 25

BURNLEY BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Keirby hotel, Burnley, at 8 p.m. Buffet dance.

EELUENT AND WATER TREATMENT, EXHIBITION, Earls Court, London, S.W.5. Until March 28.

HERTEORD BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Swan restaurant, Bishop's Stortford, at 8 p.m. Mr. P. C. E. Belsen on "Staff Training."

LABEX INTERNATIONAL, Earls Court, London, S.W.5. Until March 29.

LIVERPOOL BRANCH, GUILD OF PUBLIC PHARMACISTS, Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, Liverpool, 1, at 7 p.m. Mr. V. F. Jones (principal regional officer, Department of Health) on "Developing Organisational Needs of the National Health Service."

RETAIL ALLIANCE, Assembly room, Guildhall, Gloucester, at 7 p.m. Decimalisation meeting.

SOUTH-EAST METROPOLITAN BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Medical centre, Lewisham Hospital, Lewisham High Street, London, S.E.13, at 8 p.m. Mr. Lynn Evans (department of surgery) on "Vascular Surgery."

SOUTH-WEST LONDON CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION and WANDSWORTH DIVISION, BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Cornet of Horse hotel, 49 Lavender Gardens, London, S.W.11, at 8.30 p.m. Mr. K. B. K. Davis (assistant to the joint secretary of the Joint Formulary Committee) and Mr. A. D. Thornton Jones (joint secretary) on "The B.N.F., 1968."

WEST MIDDLESEX CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION, Park hotel, Greenford Avenue, London, W.7, at 8 p.m. E. L. Simco (a council member and past president of the British Society of Perfumers) on "Perfumes."

YORKSHIRE BRANCH, GUILD OF PUBLIC PHARMACISTS, University of Bradford, at 7.30 p.m. Symposium on "Training of the Pharmacy Student." Speakers: Professor J. M. Rowson (University of Bradford); Mr. C. Hetherington (hospital pharmacy); Mr. E. Maude (general practice). Pharmacists and pharmacy students in the area are invited to attend.

Wednesday, March 26

EASTBOURNE BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Queen's hotel, Eastbourne, at 7 p.m. Annual dinner and dance.

FIFE BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Golden Acorn hotel, Glenrothes, at 8 p.m. Informal dance.

RETAIL ALLIANCE, Red Lion hotel, Salisbury, at 7 p.m. Decimalisation meeting.

WARRINGTON BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Feathers hotel, Bridge Street, Warrington, at 8 p.m. Annual meeting.

Thursday, March 27

BRADEORD BRANCHES, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, and NATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL UNION, Midland hotel, Bradford, at 8 p.m. Mr. C. Jacobs (chairman, N.P.U.) on "Profit and Pleasure in Present Day Practice."

BRISTOL BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Dyrham Lodge, 16 Clifton Park, Bristol, 8, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. R. Blyth (Editor, *Pharmaceutical Journal*) on "Official Journalisation."

EAST METROPOLITAN BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY. Visit to the Ford Motor Co., Ltd., Dagenham. Coach leaves Browning Road, Leytonstone, at 1.25 p.m.

EXETER BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Rougemont hotel, Exeter, at 7 p.m. Dinner and dance.

LANCASTER, MORECAMBE AND WESTMORLAND BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Craig-y-Don hotel, 43 Marine Road, Morecambe, at 8 p.m. Annual meeting.

LEEDS BRANCH, NATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL UNION, Griffin hotel, Leeds, at 8 p.m. Mr. K. R. Rutter (a member of the Executive) on "Current Affairs."

RETAIL ALLIANCE, Corn exchange, Dorchester, at 7.30 p.m. Decimalisation meeting.

RETAIL TRADES EDUCATION COUNCIL, College for the Distributive Trades, 30 Leicester Square, London, W.C.2, at 3.15 p.m. Annual meeting.

SOUTHEND BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Overcliff hotel, Manor Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, at 8 p.m. Mr. J. W. Hadgraft (chief pharmacist, Royal Free Hospital) on "Pharmaceutical Aspects of Dermatology."

WEMBLEY BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Kingsbury veterans club, Kingsbury Road, London, N.W.9, at 8 p.m. Mr. D. W. den Toom (sales supervisor, National Cash Register Co., Ltd.) on "Decimalisation."

WORTHING AND WEST SUSSEX BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, White Horse Inn, Storrington, at 8 p.m. Mr. D. H. Maddock (a member of Council) on "Pharmacy in the 70's" and annual meeting.

Friday, March 28

HOUNSLOW BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Excelsior hotel, London Airport, 7.30 p.m. Dinner and dance.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF CHEMISTRY, Technical College, Borough Road, Birkenhead, at 7.30 p.m. Lord Cohen of Birkenhead on "Chemistry and Medicine."

Sunday, March 30

BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION, Portsmouth, Hants. Annual conference. Until April 4.

Courses and Conferences

EAST METROPOLITAN BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY. A refresher course of five weekly lectures is being held at various centres including Whips Cross, Wanstead, and Queen Elizabeth Hospitals, commencing April 22. Subjects include "Is Tuberculosis Finished?" "Recent Developments in Drug Treatment of Mental Illness," "Osteo-arthritis," "β Blocking Drugs" and "Drugs in Paediatrics."

NATIONAL CHAMBER OF TRADE, Blackpool, Lancs, April 26-30. Annual meeting and trade conference.

Advance Information

PROPRIETARY ARTICLES TRADE ASSOCIATION, Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.2, at 2.45 p.m. on April 10. Annual meeting.

Prescribers' Press

What doctors are reading about developments in drugs and treatments

AMONG women taking oral contraceptives, the risk of venous thromboembolism is about three times greater in those of the A, B or AB blood groups than in those of blood group O, a report from workers in Britain, the United States and Sweden suggests. The study was begun because a drug-surveillance programme in the United States revealed a deficit of patients of group O among those receiving anticoagulants for venous thrombosis. A three-country study was necessary to produce a large enough sample. Besides the oral contraceptive relationship, women of group O were shown also to be less likely to develop thromboembolism during pregnancy or the puerperium. Two earlier findings the authors think may be connected with their own are first that people of blood group O have slightly lower levels of anti-haemophilic globulin (factor VIII) than people of group A, and second, that they are more likely to develop bleeding as a complication of peptic ulcer than are patients of other groups. The *Lancet* suggests in a leading article, however, that the tempting suggestion that group O patients have blood of diminished coagulability would have more cogency if the deficiency of anti-haemophilic factor were not so small and if group O individuals were prone to other haemorrhagic diseases. But it concludes that women with blood groups other than O who practise oral contraception run an appreciable risk—"a risk which some may wish to weigh for themselves" (*Lancet*, March 15, p. 539).

ADDITION of aluminium hydroxide as adjuvant to diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis combined vaccine serves to increase antigen potency and significantly reduce the incidence of generalised reactions in children, say workers from the University of Bristol and Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd. Three triple vaccines were compared for effectiveness in primary immunisation in infants aged three to six months. Two vaccines contained diphtheria and tetanus toxoids with *B. pertussis*

organisms and to one of them aluminium hydroxide adjuvant (Alhydrogel) was added; the third was identical to the second but contained half the number of *B. pertussis* organisms. Almost all the children produced agglutinins to *B. pertussis* types 1, 2 and 3 when the vaccine contained adjuvant but reduction of the number of organisms did not reduce further the occurrence of reactions and thus served no useful purpose (*B.M.J.*, March 15, p. 663).

FLUORINATED topical steroids should not be used in the treatment of rosacea, Dr. I. Sneddon (Sheffield Royal Infirmary) proposes. He reports fourteen cases in which prolonged application resulted in aggravation and extension of telangiectasia (a condition of dilation of capillary blood vessels), with rebound inflammation when treatment was stopped. The adverse reactions were produced after six months' or more treatment in most cases, though appeared after two months in one case. Reactions did not occur with the less potent hydrocortisone, which was used for treatment subsequently. Steroids implicated were betamethasone (nine patients), fluocinolone (four) and fluocortolone 21-hexanoate (one), but the author believes the relative numbers reflect the prescribing pattern (*B.M.J.*, March 15, p. 671).

CONTEMPORARY THEMES

Subjects of contributions in current medical and technical publications

HALLUCINOGENIC PLANTS *Science*, December 6, 1968, p. 1086.

A NEW ANTIMICROBIAL AGENT (2-amino-5-(1-methyl-5-nitro-2-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl)-1,3,4-thiadiazole) *Science*, December 6, 1968, p. 1146.

MARIHUANA. Clinical and psychological effects of, in man. *Science*, December 13, 1968, p. 1234.

BRAIN 5-HYDROXYTRYPTAMINE. Morphine tolerance, physical dependence, and synthesis of, *Science*, December 13, 1968, p. 1290.

LOCAL ANAESTHETICS. Effects of pH on activity, *Science*, December 20, 1968, p. 1394.

CONCANAVALLIN A. Immunosuppressive activity of, *Science*, January 31, p. 476.

DAUNORUBICIN in acute myelogenous leukemia. *J. Amer. med. Ass.*, February 17, p. 1301.

AN EFFECTIVE MUCOLYTIC AEROSOL in bronchitis. *J. Amer. med. Ass.*, February 17, p. 1310.

HUMAN CELLS for making human vaccines. *New Scientist*, March 13, p. 558.

INTRAUTERINE CONTRACEPTION in general practice. *J. roy. Coll. gen. Pract.*, February, p. 104.

INSPECTING THE MICROBIAL ARMOURY. *New Scientist*, March 13, p. 582.

VENOUS THROMBOEMBOLIC DISEASE and ABO blood type. *Lancet*, March 15, p. 539.

POLIOMYELITIS ANTIBODY TITRES in CHILDREN and effect of live and inactivated polio-vaccine. *Lancet*, March 15, p. 564.

IMMUNISATION OF INFANTS. Advantages of aluminium hydroxide adsorbed combined diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccines for the. *Brit. med. J.*, March 15, p. 663.

NEPHROTIC SYNDROME in childhood. Cyclophosphamide therapy in the. *Brit. med. J.*, March 15, p. 666.

TOPICAL FLUORINATED CORTICOSTEROIDS. Adverse effect of, in rosacea. *Brit. med. J.*, March 15, p. 671.

SEVERE SELF-POISONING in SUNDERLAND. *Brit. med. J.*, March 15, p. 679.

NEW HALOCYCLOPRANE INSECTICIDES and the mode of action of DDT. *Nature*, March 15, p. 1025.

DIETARY CHLORTETRACYCLINE. Effect of, on the rate of growth of wool in sheep. *Nature*, March 15, p. 1057.

CYCLOPHOSPHAMIDE. Loss of hair in experimental animals induced by. *Nature*, March 15, p. 1058.

NEW COMPANIES

P.C.=Private Company. R.O.=Registered Office.

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JEFFREY SHERMAN, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital: £100. To carry on the business of chemists, etc. Subscribers: Jeffrey Sherman, M.P.S. and Isobel R. Sherman, 1A Broad Walk, London, E.18.

K. TURNER & CO. (STOKE-ON-TRENT), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, etc. Solicitors: Wells & Hind, 14 Fletcher Gate, Nottingham.

H. C. MORTON, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital: £5,000. To carry on the business of manufacturing chemists, etc. Directors: Cyril P. Hull and Doreen A. Day. R.O.: Trafalgar Row, Meadow Lane, Leeds, 11.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Mention here does not preclude a later review.

Chemistry of the Elements, HOWARD NECHAMKIN, McGraw Hill Publishing Co., Ltd., McGraw Hill House, Shoppenhangers Road, Maidenhead, Berks. 8 x 5½ in. Pp. ix + 270, 32s. 6d.

Bentley and Driver's Textbook of Pharmaceutical Chemistry. Revised by L. M. ATHERDEN, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.P.S., F.R.I.C., Oxford University Press, Ely House, 37 Dover Street, London, W.1. 9½ x 6 in. Pp. ix + 916. 100s.

Decimalisation for the Retailer, J. GROSER and R. PIPER. Ward Lock & Co., Ltd., 116 Baker Street, London, W1M 2BB. 8½ x 6 in. Pp. 80. 18s.

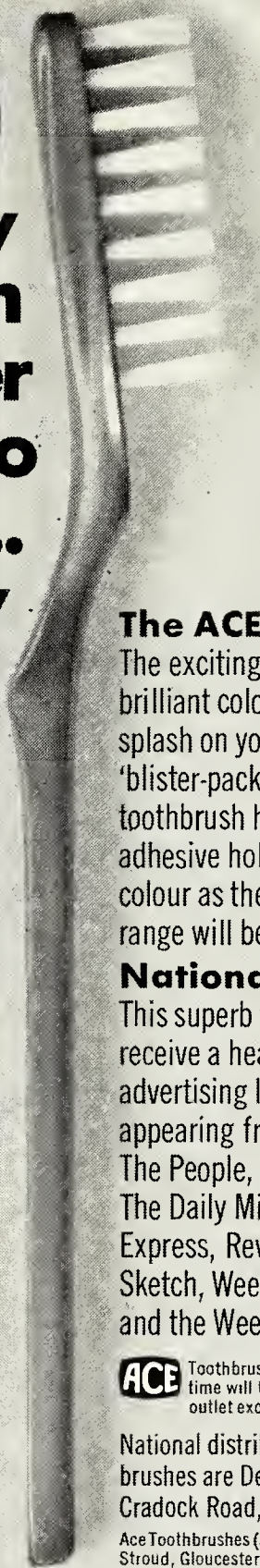
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which bends over
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to the bank!



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National distributors for Ace toothbrushes are Devon Hair Aids Ltd., Cradock Road, Luton, Beds.

Ace Toothbrushes (A division of Critchley Bros. Limited, Stroud, Gloucestershire).



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required for duties in the Group Pharmacy at Barnet General Hospital. Apply Group Pharmacist.

ILFORD & DISTRICT H.M.C.

Locum Pharmacist

any weeks July/August/September 1969. Apply to Group Secretary, King George Hospital, Eastern Avenue, Newbury Park, Ilford, Essex.

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Pharmacist, Locum

for Group Pharmaceutical Department, Whitley Council rates and conditions. Accommodation may be available for lady. Write Personnel Officer, giving full details and names of two referees.

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For

Group Pharmaceutical Department

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Apply, Editor,
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FREELANCE AGENT with excellent goodwill with chemists in the Lancashire and Cheshire area requires one extra agency. Box C. 1387.

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Full supporting staff at all branches. Contributory superannuation Scheme. Salary negotiable.

Applications to Superintendent Chemists Ltd., 422/4, Coventry Road, Birmingham. 10

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Experienced pharmacist required to take control of busy dispensing business. Good supporting staff to cover large turnover including main toilet agencies, photographs, wines, veterinary, etc. Commencing salary £2,000 p.a. plus excellent six-roomed accommodation above shop.

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Free family housing available for married men after interval period on single status.

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Please reply with full personal details and include education, qualifications and career to date to

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An experienced Technician preferably with 'A' level qualifications in Science subjects is required for the Pharmaceutical Development Department of this leading international Pharmaceutical Company. The position is concerned with the transfer of laboratory developed formulations to pilot plant and production operations together with the preparation of batches of tablets/capsules to meet the requirements for clinical testing of new drugs.

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H. INMAN

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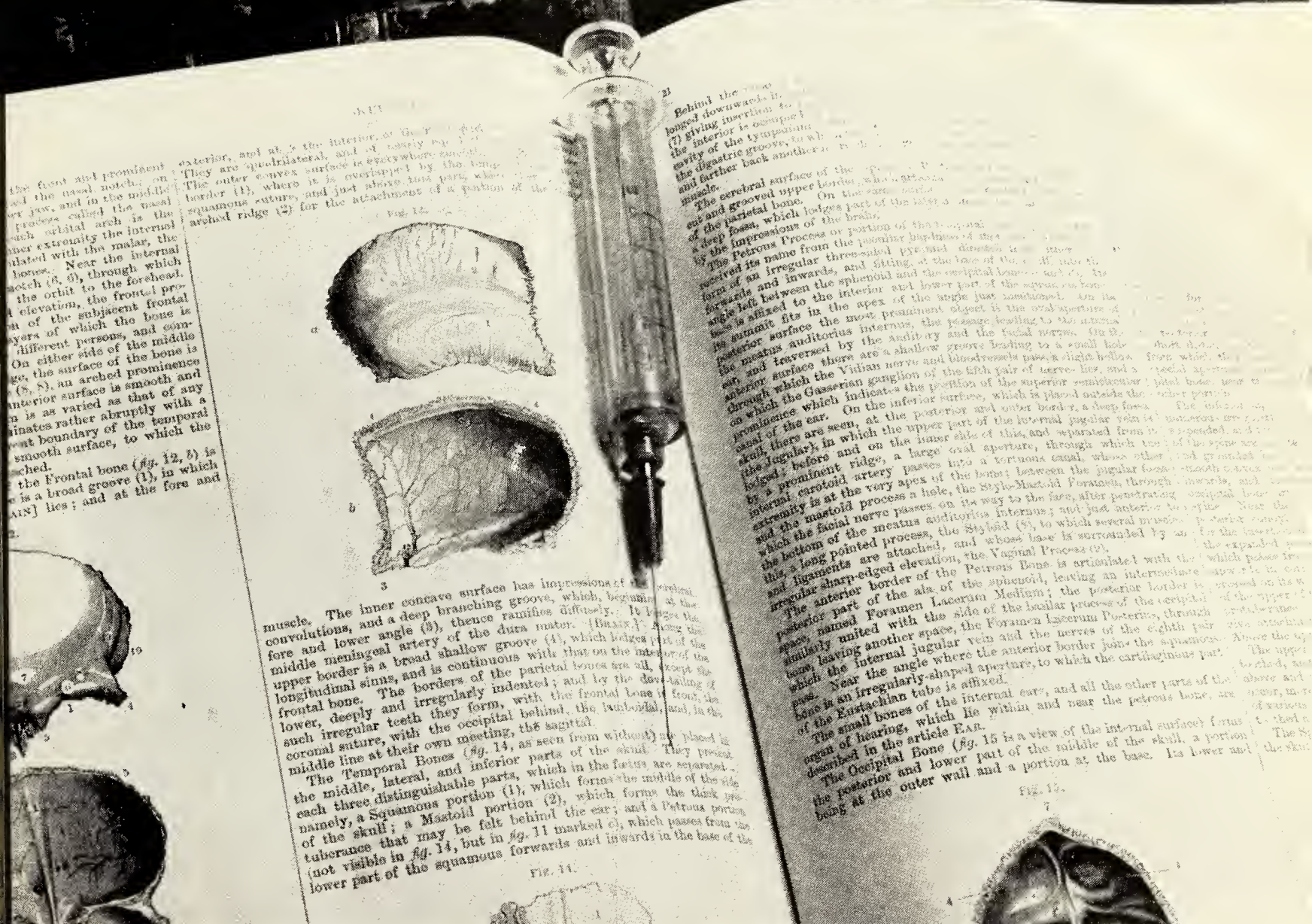
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